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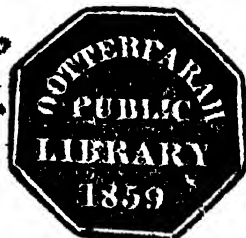
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THE

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ON NAVAL BIOGRAPHY.

STRICTURES ON SIR J. BARROW'S LIFE OF LORD HOWE.

(Concluded.)

THE noble and judicious conduct of Lord Howe, in the eventful mutiny of 1797, affords Sir John Barrow an opportunity of expatiating on the condition of the seamen of the Royal Navy, respecting whom, more political myopism has perhaps been broached, than on any other of the agitations by which the Demos delighteth to be tickled;—and we are much gratified to find that our own views of the same subject—repeatedly expressed in these pages—are fully corroborated on such authority. Those demagogues who so often traduce in words what they approve of and adopt in fact, in decrying our whole naval system, are especially given to dilate upon the superior pay and personal liberty enjoyed by the merchant tars over those of the pendant. Freedom and money are certainly sonorous terms, and must be very taking to the uninitiated—

Who scorn the rules of martial law to keep,
Yet gain the harvests of the globe would reap.

But such reasoners are mightily inclined to overlook the low tyranny, indifferent diet, dirt, and deficient accommodation, to which merchantmen are liable; as well as that their wages cease altogether the moment the ship returns home, when the crew, without further thought or consideration—whether aged, maimed, or sick—are cast adrift to shift as they may. Contrast this with the Baronet's statement of the man-of-war's man's condition and prospects,—a statement which, as it cannot be too widely disseminated, we beg to insert:—

“ Successive Boards of Admiralty have been, emulous in their endeavours to better the condition of the seamen, which is now, in fact, superior to that of almost any class of men who must earn a subsistence by the sweat of their brow. A man-of-war's man is better fed, better lodged, better and cheaper clothed, and in sickness, better taken care of, than any class of labouring men; and when he has completed twenty-one years' service, he may retire, if he wishes it, with a pension for life, from tenpence to fourteen-pence a day; and if severely wounded, more than double these sums; or if discharged after fourteen years, or less, for sickness or debility contracted in the service, a pension of sixpence or nine-pence a day. Petty and non-commissioned officers have increased pensions,

according to the petty or non-commissioned time they may have served. To show the difference since the time of the Mutiny, it may be observed that the number of these out-pensioners at that period was about 1500; at the present time they are from 18,000 to 20,000, and the average amount of the pension of each person is at least as three to one.

"Again, when seamen are worn out by old age or infirmity, that noble asylum at Greenwich, unparalleled in the world, is open for the consideration of their claims. The number at present therein is nearly 3000. As a further encouragement for good conduct, and a service of twenty-one years, gratuities are awarded to a certain number of seamen and marines, on the paying off of each ship, which entitle them also to wear a silver medal of the size of half-a-crown, at the third button-hole of their jackets, having on one side of it the words—'For long service and good conduct,' and on the other, an anchor and crown. Annexed to Greenwich Hospital is a splendid building, in the midst of a beautiful piece of ground, appropriated as a school for 800 boys and 200 girls, who receive an excellent education; many of the boys in the upper school attaining such progress in mathematics, astronomy, and navigation, as to make them sought after in the merchant service, where by good conduct they become mates and masters.

"To every ship in the Navy, and to every press, the Bible, and other books of religious instruction, and also of amusement, are allowed; and the present Board of Admiralty, anxious to extend the advantages of education to the petty officers, seamen, marines, and boys of the fleet, have recently authorized an additional rating of first-class petty officers, in every ship, under the name of 'Seaman's Schoolmaster,' whom all may attend, and all the boys are required to do so. They are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, trigonometry, and keeping a ship's reckoning at sea."

The benefits here enumerated, ought to be far more generally made known among the nautic multitude—to use a phrase from Xenophon—than they appear yet to have been. There is evidently a something still wanting, or there would not be the existing difficulty of procuring seamen for the few ships at present in commission. With respect to Sir James Graham's bill for the encouragement of volunteers, it is not reported to work well, as, indeed, we predicted. Some might allege the cat as a preventive; it is truly a *grating* affair, but the power of gangway punishment is now exercised under sufficient form and regulation to prevent its being capriciously inflicted. The abolition of flogging became one of the stock shouts of the parliamentary pignics, who will never be brought to allow that the opinions of practical men are entitled to as much attention as those of theorists, and therefore cannot perceive the extreme peril to which they expose the effective discipline of the nation's bulwark. It is the belief of our best and kindest officers, that the summary though disagreeable system which has so long obtained, is far more efficacious, as well as less injurious to the public, than all the solitary confinement, black-listing, stopping of grog, apportioning extra duties, and the other new and obnoxious substitutes recommended. But the complaint itself is not from the fleet. It is well known that, for the last fifty years, the attention of naval officers has

* An able seaman in the merchant-service now has forty-five shillings a calendar month, and all told. The man-of-war's man has thirty-four shillings per lunar month, with the advantages above detailed,—besides the bounty, systematic victualing, medical attendance, regular work, and prospects of promotion and prize-money.

been strongly directed to the consideration and comforts of the men committed to their charge; and though corporal punishment and impressment were rife and favourite cries with the humanity-mongers, and their well-meaning but weak-minded allies, it is a striking fact, that so necessary for the preservation of right and order did the seamen themselves think these evils, that they were not once alluded to in the detailed statements of their grievances which they presented to the King, the Admiralty, and the House of Commons, in the memorable mutiny of 1797.

From the treatment of the seamen, we turn to the state of their officers, a body now amounting to nearly 8000, of whom more than a third are not likely to allow their nostrils to inhale bilge-water again. As most of these gentlemen, in surrendering their best days to the service of their country, have debarred themselves from all the sources of personal emolument, the stipend on which they subsist is sufficiently small; while their station in society is not a bit the better for the taunts of the split-farthing economists. Now, even though, *idlers* and *incapables* may have crept in upon so extensive a list, what righteous or patriotic man can deny the claims of the body to the gratitude and support of the nation? In the hour of danger, and when the scaling-ladders were actually planted against the walls, it was readily admitted that every person who serves faithfully is entitled to compensation for such devotion, according to the rank and nature of the situation in which the services were performed. Now if this right be claimed by civilians, who usually serve in situations of ease and comfort, it surely cannot be denied to those who embrace a life of danger, toil, and privation; and the Navy, therefore, through all its grades and offices, requires the utmost consideration which an indulgent government can manifest.

The remarks of Sir John Barrow, however, refer mainly to the superior classes of naval officers; and he has treated the knotty and contested topic of flag promotions with great attention. As the formation of an effective list is the all-engrossing theme of the hour, among the true-blues, we shall insert our author's comments, since, flowing from such a source, they bear somewhat of an official stamp. We must premise that, in 1827, his late Majesty, then Lord High Admiral, procured an Order in Council, by which it was enacted, that all Captains who shall in future be set aside at any flag promotion, may be appointed retired Rear-Admirals, provided they retain an unblemished character, and have not avoided or declined serving. The provision for effective preferment enacts, that Captains who shall have commanded one, or more rated ships four years during war, or six complete years during peace, or five years of war and peace, shall, if considered eligible for character and qualifications, be deemed entitled to become flag-officers of the fleet. On the spirit and letter of these preliminaries Sir John thus descends:—

“ There is still some absurdity, and great injustice, in this regulation. The injustice and hardship of this order consist in the difficulty, perhaps it may be said impossibility, of a great number of Captains, however high their character, having a chance even of being able to procure appointments to command ships for the specific periods, especially during peace, in consequence of which the very best officers in the Service, being thus disqualified, must be passed over—the absurdity is, that officers, however

old, infirm, and helpless," having completed the proper time of service, and being therefore qualified, *must* be promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral, and placed on the effective list: for it may be observed, that the *other qualifications* of eligibility, mentioned in the Order in Council, have not been taken into any consideration. It is more than probable, therefore, that selection, for which Lord Howe was so much abused in the House of Commons, will be the next rule resorted to; and that officers must be content to rest their claims, where alone they can be best known, on the equitable decision of the Board of Admiralty, which can, or ought to, have no other object than to select those who will do most credit to its administration of naval affairs, by their characters, services, and efficiency.

"When the state of the list of Captains is looked into—when the ages of those within 200 of the top are considered, and the little probability of another brevet promotion speedily happening, and when, if ever it does happen, the few that can be deemed eligible for the effective flag—the necessity of doing something to clear that list must be apparent; and perhaps the simplest and most equitable mode of proceeding would be, to let it be generally understood that, on application to the Lords of the Admiralty, any Captain within the 200, 'who shall not have declined or avoided service,' will be allowed to retire with 365*l.* a-year (or some other sum) for the remainder of his life, with the rank of retired Rear-Admiral. A stipend to this amount, commencing immediately, would probably be considered by many preferable to an indefinitely deferred annuity of 45*l.* the half-pay of a Rear-Admiral.

"A motion, it seems, has been made by a Captain of the Navy, and carried, in the House of Commons, to clear the Captains' list of non-effective officers by survey, an ordeal to which few Captains will probably submit. A voluntary retirement must be far more acceptable than a compulsory one thus procured. But while clearing the Captains' list, are the Admirals, composed, as they mostly must be, of old and inefficient Captains, and not the better for increasing years—are they to be exempt from survey, and to go on in their promotion from the lowest to the highest rank? Is an *inefficient* Captain, made, as by the present order he must be, an *effective* Rear-Admiral, and some twenty years afterwards, when

———"his way of life

is fallen into the sear, the yellow leaf—"

is he to be promoted to a full Admiral, with nearly a double increase of half-pay?"

To these observations we take the liberty of appending a few strictures, although we but once acknowledge their general liberality and reasonableness. There can be no question that some system of dividing those who are in full possession of their mental and physical powers from the non-effective and effete, or those incapacitated by accident or circumstance from active service, and thereby allow the swollen Navy List to collapse, is becoming daily more imperative. But in establishing the desired retirement, the process ought to be effected with a tone and feeling commensurate with the magnitude and delicacy of the object, and in no way to compromise the respect due to the high rank which a seniority among the Captains confers upon him who gains it, or the example will be injurious both to the aspirants and the public. On this account, we beg to remind Sir John, that he is mistaken in supposing that the "Captain of the Navy" intended to clear the list of its non-effective officers by survey—at least, we are not aware that so harsh an ordeal was ever contemplated by Captain Dundas, nor that a detracting word appears in his recent motion. This considerate

seaman, who well knows the full bearing of his question, is anxious to relieve and comfort the last days of many whose complete retirement is not far off; and, if we understand him rightly, the act of quitting the Navy is to be quite voluntary. In this case, we think the least gratuity that could be offered would be twenty shillings a-day, and with this stipend the rank of a retired Rear-Admiral. It might be said there are those who would relinquish their prospects in the Service for less; but it is the duty of the Administration to legislate for the future, and it is the station rather than the individual which must be looked to.

We have already pointed out the advantages of advancing by seniority in the upper ranks of the Navy, and we exhort the friends of merit without interest to watch that this, the only real right of the seaman of fortune, be not surrendered without a substantial equivalent. Seniority, that bar to the flying-leaps of lucky boys, was an implied compact of promotion to the whole present race of officers; and an arrangement so completely held and understood ought, in a service of chivalrous honour, to be more valid and binding than law. It was an indisputable understanding between the magnates and aspirants, that if the latter obtained the rank of Captain, they were to be duly promoted in their turns; and though the advance was slow, it was known to be sure—whence, on the faith of this *Festina lente* system, hope, the grand soother of care, was carried to every candidate. If the country want younger Admirals than this method will now supply, let its Government make an offer which is likely to be accepted with willingness. To meet this, it must be recognised as a principle, that all officers who are of irreproachable conduct, and who have been at all times anxious and willing to serve, but who have never had sufficient influence to secure an appointment, are fairly entitled to every consideration of kindness and respect. It were severe, indeed, first to refuse employment to an earnest applicant, and then to punish him, by withholding those advantages which would have been the consequence of the denied trust.

*The subject is not without peculiar difficulties. A retirement, such as would be beneficial to the nation, is not to be carried into execution by merely striking off a given number of names from the top of the list, or from the leader to a given date, since long standing is no actual criterion of age or efficiency, where the early stages of promotion are so fortuitous. Even the obtaining Captain's rank, an affair of the last moment to all zealous officers, is beset with shelves and shallows. The practice of preferring only such Commanders as shall have the good fortune to obtain a sloop-of-war, would be fair and proper were commands bestowed in rotation; but, as it has been practised, it renders preference dependent upon interest, in most cases, zeal and ability being assumed as very secondary conditions. We could wish that these matters were more the consideration of the whole Board of Admiralty than a result of the will and pleasure of an individual, who possibly may be utterly unacquainted with naval desert, as well as ignorant of the bent and spirit of the Service. From Xenophon's allusion, it may be said that "merit is always the best judge of merit." It is true that that mighty member, Mr. Henry Warburton, despises professional skill, and assured the House of Commons that a man may make a capital Surveyor of the Navy, and yet know nothing about a ship; but he ought rather to have "told that to the Marines." What said Nelson? That

illustrious officer declared—"If ever I should be at the head of the Admiralty, I would do away with all private applications and favour in promotions, by having, independent of the Board, a committee of the most discriminating and impartial officers in the Navy, to examine and decide upon all claims, and each claimant should be candidly answered as to his pretensions; and I would not promote any one except those whose claims were admitted by the committee."

On these grounds, therefore, in compassing the retirement of old Captains, an end which a protracted war and consequent stagnant peace has rendered so necessary and desirable, it is hoped that the main landmarks of the rights of seniority will be strictly maintained, or the future chances of unprotected merit will be slight indeed. It is true that some parts of the rotation system of promotion are somewhat repressing; that by it the active and the indolent, the accomplished and the pig-headed, are forced on alike, and that by it some "hard bargains" have been very unduly exalted. But this relates to comparative rank only, as the selection of men of character and experience for employment, has always rested in the hands of power. The real apprehension is, that in the event of a radical alteration in the form of advancement by progression, the Government of the hour, who seldom evince much dread of responsibility, will be able to make a still greater political engine of the Navy than hitherto, by patronising their adherents in the most rapid ratio, and leaving those unconnected with party, or without family influence, in a still more neglected state than at present. The theory that a proper selection of able men will be beneficial to the nation, sounds well enough; but all experience makes us fear that talent, worth, enterprise, and the public good, would not be the only conditions on which the authorities would select their favourites from the junior ranks. The cry is now for young flag-officers; but Sir John Harrow has shown, in the instance of his hero, that neither age nor bodily infirmities are incompatible with promptitude, judgment, and spirit; and it is to be feared, that if the check of seniority promotion be removed, the Navy will not want abundance of unfledged Admirals. But by a liberal and judicious plan of retirement, some of the tedious ~~steps~~ of the rotation mode will be removed, and a road opened to efficiency, without improper or invidious interference with right.

The consideration of the enormous plenitude of a First Lord as to preferment conducts us to another topic, on which Sir John has touched, and that with considerable delicacy: we allude to the frail tenure by which a naval commission is held. Admiral Vernon, having refused to give a categorical answer, *yea* or *nay*, as to whether he wrote a couple of political squibs, was dismissed the Navy without further inquiry, court-martial, or any legal proceeding. But, from what our author states, it seems that his name was erased from the list of Admirals by the express command of the King. Here a question arises. Although the Lords have an extensive power of striking off, does this power extend to flag-officers, whose commissions, we believe, are signed by the Sovereign?

This authority is certainly a weighty one, and though, perhaps, necessary in a service of honour, one that is liable to abuse. The only occasion in which so summary a dismissal is justifiable and due to the Navy, is when conduct infamously disgraceful has been proved before a civil

tribunal. Offences committed under the pendant can always be referred to the proper court; it is therefore hoped that no side-wind voice can effect injury in this way, to any one on "actual service and full pay." Anonymous information is always a disgusting vehicle; and though, in an instance or two, it may protect the weak, a due respect and attention ought ever to be paid to the character of the accused, whose reputation must not be whispered away. Many who could have faced the lion, have fallen by the insidious bite of a reptile. However, it is not so much in the exercise of their right of dismissal that the Admiralty have shown capriciousness, as from its co-ordinate—the power of reinstatement. This may have often been a consequence of mistaken lenity, but is certainly no compliment to the sworn members of those courts which hold the individuals guilty of tyranny, oppression, or other flagrant offences. Yet with so very favourable a construction, it does somehow happen, that the most notorious instances of such white-washing have befallen men of title, family, and interest. On this very important point, Sir John Barrow judiciously remarks:—"That the Board of Admiralty is fully invested with the dangerous and equally disagreeable authority to erase an individual's name from the list of Naval Officers, and thus for ever ruin his prospects in life, cannot be called in question; but it ought to be resorted to only in cases where the Act of Parliament, by which naval discipline is governed and upheld, precludes the exercise of such a jurisdiction as is thereby provided, and where the Board of Admiralty, as the law now stands, is imperatively called upon to act in cases that cannot be brought before a court-martial. When the necessity for such a proceeding occurs as that of striking an officer's name from the list, the public and the individual may be well assured, that a body of three or four highly honourable men, naturally prejudiced in favour of a brother officer, would be slow to condemn him to disgrace, and, in some cases, to absolute and hopeless poverty, without having first satisfied themselves that a court-martial, if one could have been held, would have pronounced the same or a similar sentence."

On the subject of those court-martial salvos, by which the wreck of ships and the loss of lives are so kindly attributed to errors in the *Master's* reckoning, even where a score of journals is supposed to be duly kept, our author puts a very pertinent question. He asks—why a Lieutenant, about to obtain a Commander's commission, should not undergo a second examination in test of his nautical ability? In this we cannot but coincide; for it has been with the utmost regret that we have witnessed how quickly and how recklessly the effects of "cramming to pass" are allowed to evaporate after the Midshipman's ordeal is over. Even some of the more intelligent officers, having gained their first object, rest upon their oars, confiding in the force of their previous strokes, forgetting that, if those strokes remain unrenewed, the boat will soon cease to have way through the water.

We have now to touch upon a very momentous portion of Sir John Barrow's work, as it contains no less than an elaborate exposition of the qualifications requisite for a First Lord of the Admiralty; and the conclusion that a civilian is better adapted to be the *decus et tutamen* of that mighty arm of power, than a naval officer. To the unprofessional reader we should premise, that the Board of Admiralty is the office of Lord High Admiral, whether discharged by one single person, or by joint commissioners called Lords, of whom the head is a Cabinet

Minister; which board comprehends the management of maritime affairs, and administers for whatever concerns the Navy—its dockyards, its arsenals, its ships, its seamen, its officers, and its discipline, pay, and regulations. Now, as we're somewhat at issue with the Baronet upon the bearing of this question, we will, in fairness to the argument, submit his views:—

"The chief of the naval administration of the United Kingdom undertakes one of the most important and responsible offices of the state. To him, and to his co-adjutors, are intrusted the proper management and direction of the great arm of our strength, and with it the highest interests of the community. Without a well-appointed and commanding naval force, the British Army, and the lofty spirit of Britons, would be confined to their own shores at home, and become powerless and unknown abroad; their commerce would fall into decay, and pass into other hands, and we should once more be reproached as the *Britanni toto ab orbe exclusi*, instead as now known and feared, and respected in every part of the globe.

"In the selection, therefore, of the Minister, who is to give to this powerful machine life and vigour, and its proper direction, it must be of the first importance that his qualifications to fill the office with credit to himself, and benefit to the country, should be well considered. He should possess a general knowledge of naval history and jurisprudence, good sense and unblemished integrity, a sound judgment and great discretion, a patient and placid temper, a courteous deportment and civil demeanour to all, an easy access to officers of every rank, and a ready and obliging acknowledgment of all applications addressed to him in writing. He should make himself well acquainted with the services and the claims of individuals of the several ranks of officers; and although, in the present overgrown state of the lists, it is not possible to comply with the multitude of claims preferred, more or less strong, yet a kind manner of receiving and replying to them, personally or by letter, goes a great way to soften the bitter pangs of disappointment, the unavoidable result of a non-compliance with what is requested.

"The two principal and most painful sources of vexation and annoyance, which a First Lord of the Admiralty must lay his account of being doomed to undergo—and they are brought perpetually before him, and, if he be endued with the proper feelings of humanity, must perpetually distress him—are, the pressing solicitations for promotion and for employment. The scenes of disappointed expectation, of enduring poverty and hopeless misery, that are constantly forcing themselves upon him, and which he has not the means of relieving, none but himself can form any idea of; and in portioning out the small pittance of patronage left at his disposal, and in weighing the respective claims of the numerous candidates, it is needless to say what conflicting opinions and sentiments regarding the superiority of such claims—what doubts and hesitation, must pass through his mind in endeavouring to make a just and proper decision in the selection of the fortunate individual. He has also to bear in mind that, while the claims of the officer are under consideration, the claims of the Service are not to be lost sight of; and whenever the one, however strong and cogent, may be in opposition to the other, there is but one course left to arrive at that decision.

"The *matériel* of the machine requires no less attention than the *personnel*, though of a different and less delicate nature. To watch over the civil concerns of the Navy—to check all unnecessary expenditure in the various establishments—to keep up a supply of stores, and an efficient fleet, whenever its services may be called for, while every attention is paid to economy—require a constant, vigilant, and inquisitive superintendence. Ships must be in readiness, whether in war or peace—large fleets in the former case, and in the latter, guard-ships, experimental squadrons, or what are now termed demonstration ships, or ships kept in a certain state

of preparation, besides others of various sizes to satisfy the demands of the mercantile interest; for the governors of colonies, always clamorous for naval protection; and others for the suppression of the slave-trade, packet service, &c. The naval establishments at the ports—the dockyards, victualling-yards, medical, transport, and marine departments—require occasionally the personal inspection of the First Lord of the Admiralty, for these are the great absorbents of naval expenditure.

Naval officers in general would naturally enough ask, who is the description of person most likely and best qualified to do justice to those who have in the labouring oar in fighting the battles of the country, in the issue of which is involved all that we hold dear? And the answer would as naturally be, “a naval First Lord,” and yet they will find that, on taking a retrospect, many bitter complaints have been made from their own corps against a purely naval administration, on the score of partiality. How, indeed, can it be expected that a professional man should be able to divest himself of prejudice in favour of those individuals with whom he has associated, sometimes almost exclusively for years, in a confined and uninterrupted intercourse? How can it be expected he should cast aside the best feelings, of human nature, and disregard those early and ancient friendships, from the moment he takes his seat at the head of the Admiralty Board—that he should turn aside from those companions of his early days, who gained laurels by his side, who shared with him the dangers “of the battle and the breeze,” and participated in his pleasures? Such are the officers, whether most fit or not, who will expect to share, and who will share, largely in a naval lord’s patronage.

Such are the representations of Sir John Barrow, but we must, with deference, declare, that we deem them to be more plausible than exact, and partly a result of the indifference in which public men too often hold professional talent. This has sometimes been carried to an extent very injurious to the national interests, and from its frequent recurrence has misled men who ought to have known better. During the American war, Lord North remarked to a naval officer, who then filled a high civil office, that it was very unfortunate and extraordinary, that nearly all the transports, victuallers, and ordnance vessels bound to North America were either taken, lost, or driven to the West Indies: the officer replied, it would only be extraordinary if they arrived safe, as they were sent out at the most improper season, and that if ministers continued to give their directions without consulting naval men, or seamen of some description, disasters must inevitably follow. Lord North concluded the conversation by observing, *they thought they could do very well without consulting sea officers!*

“Thus he that has but impudence,
To all things has a fair pretence.”

To settle this case on the premises before us, we must accept as the conditions, that while the land Lord is a model of virtue, amiability, discernment, and propriety, the Sailor is deficient in judgment, and utterly forgetful of the principles of honour, rectitude, and duty. But though our author gives his vote against the sea Lord, he has certainly controverted his own theory in the picture which he has drawn of Lord Howe—his never breaking a promise—his being incapable of “undue partiality, or giving his countenance to what, in the vulgar tongue, is called a *job*”—his being one from whom Mr. Dundas was unable to wring sufficient good things to satisfy all his craving dependents—and his resigning office rather than hold it as a mere puppet. Such an example surely exhibits the advantage of practice over speculation; and the

War Office, administered solely by soldiers, affords another instance. Sir John, however, contends that the Army and Navy are not parallel cases, because the Queen reserves to herself the command of the military forces, but delegates her power over the Navy to a commission. This is rather sound than substance, as we could show were it necessary.

It is true that some sea officers, smarting under the reign of terror, appear to have dreaded a naval First-Lord, and others adopted the ~~same~~ feeling from the overweening suavity of a succeeding ~~Pay~~. but the tyranny of one seaman, or the laxity of another, is no argument that some of their contemporaries did not possess the requisite qualifications for filling the high post with honour and credit. As to the hackneyed objection, that the sailor may be partial to a particular set of followers, it is not borne out by experience, but supposing the allegation to be founded in fact, is not such a professional preference more honest and less injurious than that which results from mere accident, and allows a grand monopoly of patronage to be devoured by family and party favouritism. A seaman must at least know more of the habits, character, impulses, and prejudices of the ocean-host, and the tenor of the respective merits of the candidates for notice, than a landsman possibly can acquire; and the maritime resources of his own and other countries are more likely to have been the study of him who has made it his profession, than of one who suddenly has the situation fitted to him, whether he is adapted for it or not. The seaman might appoint old companions to good commissions, but we have seen cases, not a few, in which the conflicts regarding the justice or injustice of the selection, supposed to haunt a first-lord's mind, seem to be very easily borne with by the landsman.

But with ~~an~~ difference of opinion does not make opposition, and we hope our view of the case is not less recognised by common sense than by professional bias. Yet though, *cæteris paribus*, we see no reason why those who have been directing the operations of British fleets on the ocean, and whose experience and sea-knowledge give them so substantial a claim, should be excluded from the helm of naval affairs, we entertain no insuperable objection to a president practically unacquainted with maritime matters, provided the other commissioners were all able seamen. But he should possess a vigorous understanding, an impartial disposition, a strong desire to promote the welfare and honour of those committed to his charge, and an intimate acquaintance with the naval interests of his country, in fact, we would have him to be all that Sir John Barrow has pictured. And even then, and supposing his mind unwarped and unprejudiced, we still think the public welfare is deeply hazarded in conferring the full and uncontrolled patronage of the naval service to a landsman, and that landsman always a political partisan. Another evil of the system is, the constant liability to change. According to the Spanish proverb, three moves are equal to a fire. It is absolutely necessary that the First-Lord be of the Cabinet Council, and liable to be removed upon every passing squall among the Ministry, still the commission ought to be so modelled that his removal should not, by drawing off his associates in his train, turn the Navy and all its vital interests suddenly over to new regulations, to the detriment of the nation.

Sir John Barrow thinks that the education of a seaman is not exactly what is suited to fill up an important place in the Ministerial Cabinet; and that his professional career almost precludes the acquisition of that

general knowledge, and of those broad and comprehensive views inseparable from the character of a great statesman. This is a very prevalent fallacy, and one which quite forgets the multifarious and onerous duties by flood and field, in camp and council, in cabin and court, which usually fall to the lot of those who ornament the higher ranks of the Navy. It is thus that it was clamorously demanded respecting the first man of the age—"What does Wellington know about politics? He's only a soldier!" Now, in answer to the inquiry as to what a seaman can know of state affairs, we think it much more probable that habits of business, firmness of conduct, unceasing application, and unflinching integrity of purpose, will be found in the superior grade of naval officers than among the scions of interest, wealth, and faction, who so frequently jump among the loaves and fishes from the forms of schools and colleges, or the Lord knows whence. In that pithy and summary estimate of character—"O! he's only a sailor," it would be implied, that keen intellect and sound judgment evinced in mastering the theory and practice of naval duties, and their consequent obligations among men and matter, necessarily denote a man to be unfit for an active exercise of the mind in any other public department. But wherein have our British seamen been found wanting? They may not have had sufficient party-interest to instal them into the high places, but the grand engine would have worked very badly without them. Lord Spencer was an amiable and upright First Lord, but in the arrangement and distribution of the fleets, the veteran Middleton was his Mentor. The elder Lord Melville, the best friend, perhaps, the Navy ever enjoyed, was benefited by the counsel of Gambier and Neale; and Lord Mulgrave, a soldier, who by the turn of fortune's wheel was thrown to the Admiralty helm, had the good policy—besides his official colleagues at the Board—to secure a practical seaman for his private secretary. Indeed our author feels this himself, for after deciding in favour of the civil Lord, he adds—"It must be admitted, however, that without the assistance of two or three able, honest, and judicious naval co-adjutors, no landsman, whatever his talents might be, could attempt to carry on the numerous duties of this important office." Here, be it remarked, it is assumed as an equation, that the co-adjutors are always "able, honest, and judicious."

It is a curious part of this problem, that the advocates for lay Lords boast of the victories achieved under their administration, as proofs of their fitness for the helm, though a moment's reflection would rather class them among the chances of war. In this argument not a word is uttered about the manifold errors committed. As far as the equipment and stationing of the ships are concerned, it will easily be seen what touch-and-go affairs some of those very conflicts were, from inefficiency of means and appliances. Lord Sandwich was certainly an able man, having, fortunately for the public, remained long enough in office to learn something of his duty, yet, in 1780, after having presided over the Navy for many years, he allowed the British Channel to be insulted by sixty-six sail of the enemy's line, to which he could oppose but thirty-six. See in our own times how insufficiently the fleets were supplied with attendant vessels—the "eyes" of an armament, as they have aptly been called—insomuch that Nelson in his regrets declared his conviction that the word "frigate" would be found on his heart. The same magnanimous chieftain fought his last grand battle with a

most motley fleet; in which were no fewer than seven different classes of 74-gun ships, each requiring different spars and gear from the other, and some of them so old and weak as rather to be claimants for a dive than for victory. Look again at the preposterous stone expedition to Boulogne, to endeavour to choke a tide-harbour, where, at low water, all the material could be carted away: and it is in fresh remembrance that a land Lord employed another landsman, who was a sort of half-soldier, half-mechanic, to rig and arm ships after a fashion of his own, to the derision of all seamen. In fact, were the matter well proved, it would prove, that Great Britain is more indebted to the indomitable valour and professional skill of her tars, than she is inclined to admit.

The general work of the Admiralty may roll on pretty smoothly, with the aid of able subalterns, in peaceable times; but under the emergencies incident to war and intestine broils, the ninth great officer of the State—the *Capitaneus Nautarum et Marinellorum*—ought to know well what oar he is pulling. Can the vivid perception of a public duty, which originates from knowledge and experience, be placed in juxtaposition with that derived at second-hand? We have already noticed the manly tone in which that brave old sailor, Lord Hawke, vindicated his selection of Howe for an important appointment, because “he had tried him” on service. The best interests of the country may be subjected to ruinous delays by the man who must first consult with advisers before he dare give an order in a critical moment. In the late war, the *Curieux* arrived at Plymouth with the intelligence that Villeneuve was on his return from the West Indies, with the combined fleet. This vessel anchored on the 7th of July, 1805, and at about 11 P.M. on the following day her Captain arrived at the Admiralty. Lord Barham, who then held the tiller, having retired to rest, the dispatches were not communicated to him until early on the morning of the 9th. At this the worthy old Admiral, seeing at once the vital importance of prompt measures, was extremely angry, averring that seven or eight hours had been most needlessly lost. The point was, to lose no more time. Without waiting to dress himself, he instantly wrote orders for Admiral Cornwallis to detach Rear-Admiral Stirling from off Rochefort to join Sir Robert Calder, who was to take a station off Cape Finisterre, while Cornwallis himself, with the Channel fleet, was to cruise between Ushant and Finisterre. By 9 A.M. the Admiralty messengers were on their way to Portsmouth and Plymouth, and on the 11th Admiral Cornwallis received his orders. Such promptitude, on the part of the British Admiralty, could not be credited by Napoleon. “Ce ne fut que le 20 Messidor,” (July 8,) says he, in the *Précis des Evénemens*, “que le brick le *Curieux* est arrivé en Angleterre. L’Amirauté n’a pu se décider dans les vingt-quatre heures sur les mouvemens de ses escadres: dans ce cas, il n’est pas probable que l’ordre à l’escadre devant Rochefort soit arrivé en trois jours. Je mets donc en fait que cette escadre a levé sa croisière par des ordres antérieurs à l’arrivée du *Curieux* à Londres.”*

Such are our notions upon the question of a professional or non-

* It is well known that at this time “Jupiter Scapin” studied Steel’s List of the British Navy, read the Naval Chronicle, and intrigued with the newspaper press of Europe. But in the grand blow which he is said to have plotted against our maritime power by Villeneuve’s expedition, he must have arrogated that our statesmen and seamen were all asleep at their posts.

professional wielder of naval thunder. Yet with all this, and much more that can be easily advanced, we are quite ready to acknowledge that the Board of Admiralty has been supplied with First-Lords of no mean note in the archives of their country. In the execution of this important and difficult post, neither activity, vigilance, method, nor benevolence have been wanting; and perhaps it is only owing to that base of society, party-politics, that the principles of honour and impartiality have been debarred a fuller development. Indeed, so useful and splendid a class have these Statesmen formed in themselves, that we have often thought a work, comprising their memoirs and official acts, judiciously drawn up, would be a most acceptable addition to our nautical libraries. They may be distinctly traced from Alfred the Great, who was Lord High Admiral between the years 872 and 900, down to the present commission, by any one who has sufficient time and tact, with zeal and industry to support and prosecute the inquiry. Should this be deemed too formidable an undertaking, we beg to suggest the period between the two "Sailor Kings," as one of intense maritime interest,—an assertion which will be clearly illustrated by a mere enumeration of their names and times:—

1685. James 2nd, Lord High Admiral.	1758. Lord Anson.
1688. Arthur Herbert.	1762. Earl of Halifax.
1689. Earl of Pembroke.	„ George Grenville.
1692. Earl Cornwallis.	1763. Earl of Sandwich.
1693. Viscount Falkland.	„ Earl of Egmont.
1694. Edward Russell.	1766. Sir Charles Saunders.
1699. Earl of Bridgewater.	„ Sir Edward Hawke.
1701. Earl of Pembroke, L. H. A.	1771. Earl of Sandwich.
1702. Prince George, L. H. A.	1782. Viscount Keppel.
1708. Earl of Pembroke, L. H. A.	1783. Viscount Howe.
1709. Earl of Orford.	„ Viscount Keppel.
1710. Sir John Leake.	„ Viscount Howe.
1712. Earl of Stafford.	1788. Earl of Chatham.
1714. Earl of Orford.	1795. Earl Spencer.
1717. Earl of Berkeley.	1801. Earl St. Vincent.
1727. Viscount Torrington.	1804. Viscount Melville. (1)
1733. Sir Charles Wager.	1805. Lord Bannam.
1742. Earl of Winchelsea.	1806. Hon. Mr. Grey.
1744. Duke of Bedford.	„ Rt. Hon. T. Grenville.
1748. Earl of Sandwich.	1807. Lord Malgrave.
1751. Lord Anson.	1810. Hon. C. Yorke.
1756. Earl Temple.	1812. Viscount Melville. (2)
1757. Earl of Winchelsea.	1827. Duke of Clarence, L. H. A.

While upon this subject we may as well make the signal for another work,—one which would be gladly received by those who study the progress of the greatest maritime power in the world. By this, we allude to the "acts and dictates" of those Secretaries, to whom the Navy is indebted for manifold exertions in their cause, as well as for a large share of the intellectual celebrity attached to the service in general. To enforce our argument, we need only cite such illustrious names as those of Pepys, the proposer and promoter of many useful nautical inventions—of Burchett, the able and exact naval historian—and of our regretted friend, the late William Marsden, one of the most amiable, upright, and learned men of his day.

This topic has led us further than we originally intended to proceed; and as, according to the sarcastic imitator of Johnson, "all things which have a limit must be brought to a conclusion," we hasten to take leave

of Sir John Barrow's very valuable volume. But we cannot close the book without expressing our unfeigned thanks for the pleasure he has afforded us in the opportunity of a naval discussion, in these days of mere galley-yarns and factitious novels; and we hope he will, ere long, yield us an opportunity of breaking another lance.

By the way, we may just hint that, when the work comes to another edition, it would, perhaps, be a little more acceptable to the "thinking" seamen, were the author to add, in enumerating the force of *Habsburg's* different expeditions, the names of all the ships and their commanders,—especially when in presence of 'the enemy—an addition which, in small print, will not occupy much space. We may also mention, that there is an error on page 402, where the *Alligator*, a small frigate, is twice placed for the *Arrogant*, of 74 guns. We think the term *querulous* might have been withheld from the judicious Collingwood's name, since it is notorious that he complained, not on his own account, but in justice to those for whom it was his duty both to feel and to intercede. The statement respecting the alterations made by 'Sir Alexander Hood in the *Robust's* log-book, after Keppel's action, should be given in greater detail, for the sake of those unacquainted with the circumstances of the case, or entirely omitted; and we are sure that further particulars respecting the introduction of naval signals, and their progressive improvement, would be welcome.

These may appear to be trivial comments, but they constitute the sum of nearly all we can find at fault. Our strictures on the life of ADMIRAL EARL HOWE must, therefore, be concluded by a summary of his character, according to established form; but we have it at hand, in one of the letters of that most excellent man, George III., wherein the writer's discrimination, judgment, and amiability of disposition, are eminently conspicuous. The gracious Monarch, consoling the sister of the deceased Earl, says,—“I trust Mrs. Howe knows me better than to suppose my long silence, on the great loss the public has sustained, as well as her family, by the unexpected death of her excellent brother, has been occasioned by any other motive than the desire not to intrude, while she was so fully employed in acts of attentive kindness to her relations, who must have found much comfort from such attention. I trust the example he has set to the Navy will long continue to stimulate, not only the matchless bravery of the officers, but convince them of the necessity to view the profession in a scientific light, by which alone those improvements are to be acquired, which will retain that superiority over other nations, which every Englishman must desire. His exemplary conduct in private life must, on the present melancholy occasion, be the only true comfort to those who loved him, as it gives that hope of his having quitted this transient world for eternal happiness, through the mediation of our blessed Redeemer. If I did not feel the propriety of not adding more on so glorious a theme, my pen would but too willingly continue.”

Here the friendship of Augustus and Agrippa is brought into a pleasing parallel. May our beloved country never want such a Sovereign, nor such an Admiral!

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NOTICES OF AN EXPEDITION TO ALEXANDRIA IN THE YEAR 1867.

Nothing extraordinary occurred on the 14th; our fire was well supported, producing, however, from the position and construction of the town, little effect. The market in camp was plentifully supplied, and the Arabs brought to us abundance of that sort of intelligence which we knew would be acceptable. Accordingly, the march of the Mamelukes to join us was current in every quarter of the bazaar, and one man affirmed their camp to be as far down the Nile as the village Algam. Some cannonading was kept up at El Hamet across the Nile, and now enemy's parties were observed frequently passing and repassing that post on the right bank: these proved afterwards to be reinforcements for the garrison and troops occupying that side of the river. The enemy's guns on our right became troublesome, for, to a certain degree, they enfiladed the line and occasioned frequent casualties in camp.

It was thought practicable to pass a small party across the river, and either destroy or carry off the guns. But for transport, there was only one or two dgerins afloat, and two or three sunk under the mosque at Abermandour. Captain Halliwell determined to weigh the latter, and with such scanty means provide transport for a party sufficient to carry the enemy's posts. It was incumbent, also, to weigh and repair these boats during the night, for an interference with them in the day would necessarily produce alarm. Accordingly, on the night of the 15th, preparations commenced; the boats were again sunk before day, and it was hoped the plan might be executed on the day following. The enemy this day gave a *feu de joie* upon being joined by a considerable party of horse, who took post on the right bank.

On the 15th General Frazer and Staff, for the first time, visited the camp. It was stated verbally, what had often been represented before, that all our efforts in the way directed would probably prove unavailing, for it had now become evident that there must be a sufficient combined military and naval force to give us command of the river with both its banks. The General stated that to give another man was out of the question—that almost all the British effectives were already before Rosetta—that the composition of the greater portion of the force left at Alexandria could not be relied on. He directed General Stewart to persist in the cannonade and bombardment, not conceiving that, hitherto, it had been sufficiently executed. General Stewart explained that this expenditure of ammunition occasionally exceeded our means of conveyance, which caused a momentary interruption, but that every exertion was made to keep up the necessary supply; at the same time reiterating, that in his opinion the attack would prove a failure.

The General and Admiral left the lines without expressing any satisfaction at the efforts that had been made. In the evening every exertion was called forth to complete the equipment of the boats, and Capt. Halliwell had the satisfaction to provide four, each capable of conveying thirty men across the river—here about 300 yards wide. The first boat carried a warp, with which the remainder were dragged over.

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Major Macdonell*, 78th, was ordered for this duty, and had under him 35th Grenadiers, 31st Light Companies, and two ditto 78th regiment. The road to the enemy's battery, from whence it was proposed to cross the Nile, might be about half a mile: close upon the path was a solitary house, and further on a mosque and hamlet; the battery itself more in advance, contiguous to a considerable village. Two companies could only be passed at a time, and with these and forty seamen, under Lieut. Robertson, the Major crossed. The Turks had, probably, some Arab on the outlook (a duty they seldom perform themselves), for before the Major could get forward they discharged their guns and fled from the battery; day was breaking, and Macdonell made proper arrangements for removing the guns, &c. They learned from the peasants that an escort of camels had just departed, but upon closer examination found a saddled dromedary and twelve camels laden with the effects of one of the chiefs. These animals, with the guns, stores, &c., were sent to the rear. The Major, having thus handsomely performed the service, was preparing to fall back, when he received an order to stand fast. The before-mentioned village, having trees and bushes intermingled, was in his front unoccupied; had it been intended to halt him for a time on the other side he ought to have been pushed forward, or retired to the hamlet and mosque, where it was open, and the enemy's movements could be observed; at any rate he ought not to have been halted where he was. By this time the alarm had spread to Rosetta, and the force sent over being ascertained from the Minarets, considerable bodies then sallied forth, whose manoeuvres were distinctly observed from our lines, though unperceived by Major Macdonell in the low flat where he was posted. The enemy inclining from the bank of the river to the left, and filing through the woods, endeavoured to envelop our party's right and intercept its retreat. The Turks were prevented from stealing upon it by the bank of the Nile, in consequence of the fire of our guns at the orange garden. It was evident, however, from the mode in which Macdonell was formed that he was ignorant of the enemy's movements, and of his disposition for attack.

When General Stewart saw this, and that there was no longer an object in keeping the party on the other bank, he immediately sent directions for it to commence an orderly retreat, which his anxiety led him personally to superintend. So long as our people kept their ground the enemy was shy in advancing, but the moment the retreat commenced by alternate bodies, the Turks, concluding a retreat must be a flight, pushed on impetuously. A heavy fire, however, from the posted bodies again produced caution. The enemy then threw himself into the bushes and hedges, keeping up a sharp but ineffectual fire. The companies which first re-crossed formed on the left bank, covering the retreat of the rear, with a heavy though not very destructive fusillade. Captain Tarlton's company covered, and Serjeant Wright, with his section, maintained the ground till all embarked, and returned, having none killed and only a few wounded. The surprise was complete; yet the affair would have been more perfect, and made greater impression on an enemy who dreaded night-work, had General Stewart carried through his original plan. Indeed, that candid and gallant

* The present Sir James Macdonell, appointed to the command of the Brigade of Guards for Canada.

Officer was the first to express regret at deviating from it, quoting an excellent military maxim of Lord Nelson, "That the plan which was maturely weighed and decided upon in the closet, ought not, at the instant, for its accomplishment, to be lightly departed from; for that the resolution of the moment would not, in all probability, be so well calculated and combined as that previously digested; therefore nothing but some certain and unlooked-for advantage could warrant such a departure." In this instance nothing of the kind occurred. It had been considered impracticable with the present force to establish ourselves on the right bank; but the order to stand fast was given solely to witness the sensation produced by the enterprise; and that sensation was to a certain extent destroyed, by affording to the enemy a pretence of having baulked our design, and of ultimately driving us before him. General Stewart returned thanks to the troops engaged in this dash, and the army agreed to give up to the detachment the money arising from the sale of the captured camels and stores. A strong admonition was also given to the troops for having generally left their lines, and run to the spots where a view could be had of the partial engagement—a moment offering a tempting occasion for the enemy to make a sortie from the town, which perhaps a more vigilant one would not have neglected.

This day, two men of De Roll's regiment deserted from the outposts at El Hamet. Our friend Sheik Mahmoud, the Arab chief, who first communicated with Nelson in Egypt, declared he would recover them, and sent two Arabs of his tribe, who brought them back from the village of Dibee. Authorities for the trial of these deserters were sent for. The enemy now daily showed himself upon a high sand-hill on the left of the position, sometimes firing from thence, but at too great a distance for effect; rarely he ventured to show his cavalry in the plain. A 6-pounder was brought to the left of the commanding redoubt, near the 35th; a few shots from whence were sufficient to cause him to retire. As we were now pretty well protected by field-works, it was desirable to draw the enemy into the plain, as with safety a great portion of the troops could be moved against him, consequently only the piquets were now got under arms upon the usual demonstrations.

On the 17th General Stewart directed Colonel Oswald to visit the post of El Hamet, and report its state. He found that Major de Vogel-sang had entrenched himself on the left, having his gun well secured, and making the best of a bad position. The Colonel passed along the southern bank of the canal, which he found equal in height to the northern: they were both steep, so that an enemy's force at the foot of either was protected from the superior fire. At Major Mohr's, in the centre, he found the gun exposed, and that but little had been done to fortify the village of El Hamet, with which it was connected; but there were here so many chasms in the bank by which the village might be turned, that nothing could render it secure as a defensive position. The right, as formerly described, was quite uncovered; all that could be hoped for was, that as at night, on account of the great fissures in the ground, it would be difficult to pass the plain with cavalry; so in the daytime the enemy might be observed far enough to allow of the troops quitting the extensive and treacherous line, and by concentration with the guns, become formidable to the undisciplined troops they expected to be attacked by. Colonel Oswald reported, that the line

of El Hamet might be maintained against the desultory attacks of a few Bedouin Arabs, but was untenable against a combined force of cavalry and infantry acting in concert.

On the 18th nothing particular occurred. It was evident the garrison was receiving reinforcements, and the event was announced to us by salvos of musketry. This led us to doubt what had been reported respecting the Mamelukes. Indeed the assertion of their speedy arrival was now less confidently reported by the market people, and the bazaar was perceptibly less attended. The enemy had now got into play a mortar, and threw shells into our lines with effect: one fell very near to the reserve of powder, which was but insufficiently secured.

On the 19th a report reached us of the enemy having passed a force to the left of the river, occupying a village a short way beyond Dibee. This showed an intention of either commencing active operations on our right, or, by establishing posts, cutting off our communication with the interior from whence we drew supplies: that, indeed, was the immediate consequence, for this day there was hardly any market. In reporting this to the General commanding, General Stewart stated that if the enemy was in force sufficient to show himself in the field, there could be no longer a hope of success, and that it was necessary to be prepared to move off in good order and with the least possible loss; he therefore expressed his opinion that no more guns should be sent to the lines, unless accompanied with men to work them, and the means of removal in case a retreat in the presence of an enemy became indispensable. This was a judicious reply to an offer, yet more to encumber a small force already overladen with artillery, which could not be moved before an enemy possessing extensive means of cutting off the baggage, and impeding the march. General Stewart at the same time announced an intention of reinforcing the El Hamet post, as also of reconnoitring the village held by the Turks on our side of the river, and, if practicable, without too great hazard, to drive them from it.

This morning the enemy sallied forth in more strength than he had done since the day on which Ali Bey was wounded. The cavalry galloped into the plain and strongly threatened our left, while the infantry stole through the clumps of trees to the redoubt in front of De Roll's. The attack appearing serious, the three corps on the right were placed under arms, and their respective piquets in the redoubts reinforced. Two companies of the 35th, with a gun, were ordered into the plain to support the cavalry, too weak to resist the considerable force that was moved upon them. Besides what was shown on the plain, it was evident many were concealed, or attempted to be so, in the grove in front of the 35th, posted there to take our cavalry in flank, in case of charging so far as to withdraw themselves from the infantry's support, as had been the case on a former occasion. The parties being placed on the plain *en echelon* of support, Captain de Lancey was ordered to concentrate to his right, with the hope of driving the enemy upon our left, where it appeared a blow might be struck with effect. The experience had of the Turkish mode of attack proved it would not be long continued. A Turkish cavalier in the field, with an enemy before him, is perpetually animating the horse with the bridle and spur, fatiguing himself by flourishing his sabre, and unnecessarily galloping to and fro; so that after an hour's capering both horse and man are weary and in-

clined to withdraw. Colonel Oswald thought that this was now the case, and in order to get the credit of driving them in disorderly retreat, and of perhaps cutting off a few, he pushed forward the centre of the 35th, desiring Captain Riddell to advance his right far enough to support the centre, and keep in check the infantry. When this was effected, the centre got close enough to give the posted cavalry a heavy discharge, which drove them from the grove, and when the cavalry posted on the plain observed it they also fell back rapidly; and now it appeared that a judicious charge might here cut off a portion, but our dragoons distrusted the feeble Sicilian horses they rode, and did not dash on as they had previously done. The infantry on the left kept pace with the centre, and pursued the foe with great vivacity. The Turkish infantry then retired upon a hill just outside of the town. Few of the cavalry were now to be observed, and Colonel Oswald determined to send the troops to their lines, aware that further pursuit would bring them unnecessarily under the fire of the place. At this time General Stewart came up, and took upon himself the command, dissatisfied that the enemy was not further pursued. Accordingly he, on passing, had ordered up all the 35th, and directed that the left might close rapidly to the right, and so approach the town. Thus with the cavalry on the flank, by bringing up the left shoulders, we were soon placed at the extremity of Rosetta, upon a considerable elevation. The enemy's cavalry had got in, but the infantry kept skirmishing from amongst the thickets and hedges, close under the walls and houses. General Stewart, with a party of horse and foot, reconnoitred to the river side: the right of the 35th remained in a very exposed position, separated from its left by an opening, entirely commanded and swept by the enemy's fire of both artillery and musketry. So placed, the troops stood till the General returned from his reconnoissance, and passed on to the right: there, in spite of all precautions the officer could take, a number of casualties were occurring amongst those needlessly exposed. To the General the necessity of falling back was suggested, as no object could be obtained by occupying this unprotected ground. Captain Hallowell, who was there, urged it also. At length orders were given to retire, commencing by the left, and halting so as to secure the movement of the right, principally exposed. The Turks, who had previously gone into the town, no sooner perceived our retreat, than they immediately came forth with shouts, yells, and long shots, proclaiming their fancied triumph. The right fell back under a galling fire from the walls; and upon the enemy's sallying out, companies were obliged to halt, face about, and keep them at a distance. When withdrawn from the protection of the batteries, the Turks discontinued the pursuit, returning with all the self-complacency of victory! This gratification they owed to the pushing forward so far without a definite object, and from whence retreat was inevitable. In this affair the 35th had two officers wounded, and a considerable number of men put *hors de combat*.

So strong a sally, combined with the operations on the other side of the river, convinced every one that the enemy were determined to assume the offensive. Here it is ever to be regretted that all operations against Rosetta ceased not, that our heavy artillery was not embarked on Lake El Mo, and that with detachments and outposts assembled we did not at once retire upon our depôt at that point on the lake. It was moon-light, and every necessary arrangement respecting the artillery

stores and baggage might have been effected whilst the Turks were, as usual, napping, and the corps collected on the 20th might have accomplished an honourable and soldier-like retreat in face of all the force that Mohammed Ali could muster against it. Such was, in Gen. Stewart's mind, the proper course to pursue; but without orders, without that species of positive intelligence that would absolutely enforce such a movement, his lofty and chivalrous spirit could not bear incurring a responsibility in any degree indicating a mistrust of himself or the gallant troops he led; to a great degree he was acting subordinately, whilst it was left to him either to hazard the safety of his troops, or abandon an enterprise upon which the security of our position in Egypt was then said to depend. The brave heart of the General felt this deeply, and put off retiring till it became a measure of necessity, and could be effected only with a severe loss. This evening Captain Tarleton, with the light companies of the 35th, and De Roll's, marched to El Hamet, and Major Vogelsang was ordered to add another company: with this detachment Captain Tarleton was directed to advance upon the village the enemy occupied on our side, and if possible to drive them from it. At that time it was not supposed to be occupied in force, nor that he had a considerable body of cavalry on this side of the Nile. The companies marched in the lightest order, leaving packs behind them: the same day a party (25) of Magérobian Arabs were pursued from El Hamet and made prisoners. These brigands said that, in common with many others, they had been forced to join against the British; that they had risen, murdered their leader, and intended coming over to us: many circumstances rendered their story very doubtful, and accordingly they were detained.

20th. A General Court Martial assembled this day to try the Spaniards who deserted from De Roll's. Towards mid-day an orderly from El Hamet brought a report of the enemy having been found too strong to attack at the village; that on retiring from the reconnoissance the Light of De Roll's separated from the other two companies marching direct upon the village of El Hamet to enter the line there, was attacked by the Turkish horse, and nearly cut to pieces. This express was soon followed by Captain Reinach himself, who gave a similar account, stating his loss to be about sixty men. Although the Captain did not admit his having been overtaken, by the cavalry marching in an irregular and disorderly manner, yet it appears to have been the case. He separated from Captain Tarleton's column, taking the outside rather than inside of the canal bank, only to save a short distance: it is manifest, therefore, he apprehended no attack; and where there was such evident want of caution in one instance, it probably existed in another. Captain Reinach asserted that he was charged in square; but experience, both before and since, proves that such was not the enemy's ordinary mode of fighting: on the contrary, unless when supported by infantry, he was always checked by a well-sustained fire from a regular-formed body of infantry.

Upon receiving this intelligence General Stewart determined immediately to reinforce the post at El Hamet: accordingly, Lieut.-Colonel Macleod was detached with Captain De Lancey, half the Dragoons, a 6-pounder, Captain Pick's company, 35th, the Grenadiers, and one company 78th Regiment, and with two more companies to follow. In consequence of these large detachments the line became very weak:

the enemy saw our movements, and knew our force to a man; and as he had the means of moving his greatly-augmented troops at pleasure, the position our corps was placed in was highly critical. To contract the line would have been to abandon some of the field-works, and the positions that secured them, and would have induced the enemy to surround us in all directions.

From an intelligent foe, who knew how to combine his attacks, everything might have been apprehended:—fortunately, the one to whom we were opposed was unable to avail himself of his means, and only obtained through chance the partial success which was thrown in his way. Col. Macleod reported from El Hamet that his post was *hors d'insulte*, that the misfortune of the morning, as suspected, arose from want of precaution and regularity on the march. Notwithstanding such a statement from an officer of Colonel Macleod's experience and talents was reassuring, yet the Brigade-General remained unsatisfied, and determined in the evening to visit the outpost in person. Attended by a weak escort, he had just set out, when an Aid-de-Camp arrived, reporting a body of cavalry to have turned the right of El Hamet position, spreading themselves in its rear, and also had broken through its centre, carrying off some prisoners, and intercepting the communications. This was most unfavourable, and created the utmost apprehension in respect to General Stewart, who was thus exposed to be captured by the flying parties interposed betwixt the main body and corps at El Hamet. Colonel Oswald, who was in charge of the line, naturally expected a simultaneous attack would be made upon the weakened and extended position, which he would be compelled on the instant to contract, thereby abandoning a quantity of artillery stores, &c.

About 1 A.M., on the 21st, the General happily returned: he had communed with Colonel Macleod, and concerted with him, that if in the morning things wore the same serious aspect, the El Hamet detachment should retreat either upon the heights towards Rosetta, or direct its march to the right, approaching closely to the lake; in which latter case General Stewart would break up his camp and re-unite the corps as speedily as circumstances would permit. It was now decided, in concert with Captain Hallowell, that every arrangement should be made during this day for the army to retreat at night, carrying off artillery and stores to the extent their means would admit, destroying the remainder. Comparing the means of conveyance with the quantity of artillery accumulated, it was found that we could carry off only five light guns, one 12-pounder, and one mortar, thus abandoning four carronades, two guns taken from the enemy, and two mortars; one of which only arrived from the depot on that day; two brass guns, damaged, had been previously sent from the lines; these were painful but inevitable sacrifices. There was at the tower of Abamandour a look-out station, and there a midshipman with a good glass, during the day, kept the El Hamet detachment always in view. As day dawned Captain Hallowell himself went to reconnoitre: at first all was tranquil at El Hamet, but as the mist on the Nile dispersed, about two miles higher up the river a great number of dejermes appeared, and along with them two heavy gun vessels. This was instantly reported, and on coming down himself, he stated his having counted seventy. Until Colonel Macleod's report was received the measures to be adopted were not decided on:—that shortly arrived: he expressed

his astonishment at the enemy's obtaining such a reinforcement, for the boats evidently were filled with troops, and nothing remained for him but to effect his retreat to, or towards, the main body, as ordered. A company of the 35th, escorting camels laden with ammunition, had marched before day, and we remained in painful expectation as to what might be its fate. Colonel Oswald, after having learnt the substance of these reports, went to the General, pressing upon him the necessity of an immediate retreat: he found that it was decided on, with the full concurrence of Captain Hallowell. At the moment arrangements were in progress heavy firing was heard at El Hamet, and the midshipman reported that the detachment was hotly engaged with troops landed and landing from the *dejemrs*. There remained in camp many wounded of the 19th, and the conveyance of those unable to walk was a primary consideration. The asses of the few followers were taken from them, and the remainder were placed on the limber of a light gun, and dragged by the Magerobian prisoners lately captured. What was absolutely necessary in commissariat stores alone was loaded; wine and other articles were distributed or destroyed; ammunition of all descriptions, both for artillery and musketry, was chiefly attended to; a train was laid to the principal magazine ready to explode it; the guns were spiked or buried, except one or two in each battery, from which a fire was kept up to deceive the enemy.

These arrangements did not occupy an hour: the last report from the tower was, that our party had left the bank of the canal, formed square, and repulsed the enemy, who charged it. This looked well: the army got under arms in high spirits, hoping they would come up to the relief of their comrades, and meet the enemy at a distance from the walls and town that hitherto afforded him protection. At one time the General proposed detaching Major Macdonell with the remainder of the 78th regiment: fortunately he gave up a project that would have enabled the enemy to cut us up in detail,—too much detaching there had been already. The retreat was thus ordered:—the heavy baggage to march into the plain, covered by one wing of the 78th; so soon as posted the left wing to retreat into the plain also; their positions to be occupied by De Roll's; that of De Roll's by the guards of the *flèches* No. 2, and grand battery.

The 35th, with the guns, quitted their lines, taking a position oblique to it, facing more towards the town. The guards of the advance troops withdrew to the left, communicating with the few dragoons in the plain. The detached company of light infantry, stationed in the orange garden, retired to a ridge in the rear, in order to connect with the remainder of the light battalion, having orders to form upon the heights of Abamandour, keeping the summit with the right in reserve, and communicating by its left with the troops on the plain. Captain Macpherson was on that flank, and kept line with the 35th, the moment the main body was posted. The enemy, observing our intention, sallied forth in great numbers at all points: some entering our works before abandoned were received at the point of the bayonet. The movement of De Roll's and 35th was the signal for quitting the field-works and assembling on the ground originally occupied by the former regiment. The enemy in force threatened and attacked our extreme left; but was checked by the 35th's gun and its supporting piquets. The horse then made a circuit to its

right in order to attack the baggage; but that was covered and protected by the 78th formed *en potence*, and the movement of De Roll's forming the other face of the oblong figure the troops were gradually assuming. The magazine then exploded; no doubt to the destruction of several of the enemy, who had, in hopes of booty, rushed into it. When the troops on the plain had taken their respective positions, the light infantry crowning the heights of Abamandour, Colonel Oswald desired Captain Riddle, commanding 35th, to quit the strong post he held, and directing the piquets to conform to the movements of the battalion inclining to the left, not to interrupt its fire if required. The battalion retreated from the right of companies in double-quick, well protected by its guns, and in this formation descended into the plain, where, forming line, it fell back by alternate companies till it took its place as *rear face* of the oblong square, communicating with the light infantry who on the sand hills covered the movement.

In this position, with the enemy all around, cavalry mixed with infantry on the plain, and infantry alone on the sand hills, the army commenced an orderly retreat. At first the Turks, spurring and inspiring each other, came daringly on to the attack with shouts and yells; but a heavy and well-sustained fire from the 35th, supported by the field-guns with shrapnells, checked and disconcerted them. When, however, we faced about, he re-acquired courage, pressing forward. Colonel Oswald was obliged occasionally to request the corps might be halted, in order to re-open the fire. The enemy's cavalry made use of their fire-arms; but after the experience of shrapnells seemed cautious; with the exception of excited chiefs, or drunkards, who flourished their sabres and caracolled their horses; and these horsemen constantly formed in advance of the enemy's main body. In the sand hills, where there was good cover, the enemy displayed his favourite mode of attack with effect, pushing forward his flags, and forming thereon with great skill and boldness. The light infantry fell back in perfect order and with but inconsiderable loss, notwithstanding the brisk fusilade it was exposed to, as in retiring the road to Etko gradually receded from the sand hills: that corps descended into the plain, and took its proper place in the formation. The figure was then completed, containing in the centre our sick, wounded, artillery, baggage, camels, &c. It is true our scanty force admitted of our being but two deep; yet with our powerful fire it was unattackable by the hordes with which it was surrounded. For some time the troops were under a distant fire from the sand hills, and many casualties occurred. When the cavalry approached, the artillery made excellent practice, and the effects of shrapnells seemed to astonish.

As the troops moved on, a sand height presented itself in the centre of the passage. So soon as we had surmounted it the enemy judiciously ran up under cover, and got close enough to annoy us considerably. Colonel Oswald ordered a company to move out by divisions to drive them, supporting each other: these small bodies made them instantly disperse or throw themselves on their faces in a way it is almost impossible for fire to reach them. But pushing on to join, as we hoped, our comrades from El Hamet, other objects were not deemed worthy of attention. As we approached Lake Etko, the enemy was joined by fresh troops, chiefly cavalry, coming in the direction of El Hamet, and amongst them chiefs of a superior order. This arrival, with nothing being to be seen of our detachment, augured ill. It was at the time re-

marked, however, that they carried none of the accustomed barbarous trophies of victory, nor did they come forward to the attack with that impetuosity which generally accompanies men flushed with success. The enemy at this time completely encircled our corps, and were in great force. The troops had now to pass over the sand hill bordering on the lake, ground highly favourable for Turkish warfare; for while to resist cavalry it was necessary to preserve a close formation, keeping our flankers within, the enemy pushed round, taking advantage of every elevation to protect himself and assail us. As the sand hill became more and more abrupt, and less fitted for cavalry, we ventured forth our flankers, who kept the infantry off. We now had arrived with our left upon the lake, which, with the artillery, formed a sufficient defence. The oblong square was then formed into a three-sided figure; the front De Roll's, the right 35th, and part of the 78th, and the rear-face of light infantry. The right flank was much prolonged, to avoid being thrown into the sand hills, which occasionally approached the lake, and left but little space for the artillery, cavalry, &c., to move upon its border.

The enemy had formed a considerable body of cavalry upon the lake, where, in the direction of El Hamet, from evaporation, it left a wide and hard beach. Here our 12-pounder, dragged with infinite labour by our unwearied assistants, the sailors, was brought into action with great effect, keeping the corps of cavalry at a respectable distance. But the enemy's infantry in the sand hills greatly incommoded us, firing directly into the square; and every shot told: here also the path separated; the beach on our right led to El Hamet; that on the left to Etoko. This also was the spot where we trusted to have fallen in with Colonel Macleod; but not a man of his was to be seen—no firing had been heard—there was nothing to indicate his fate. Here it was that General Stewart commanded a halt, and collecting around him commanding officers, he pointed out to them, in a few energetic words, the different paths which lay before them: the one leading to Etoko, and possibly to safety; the other, the path of duty and honour, to El Hamet:—that he knew the brave men he led would prefer; and that, in spite of all difficulties, he knew they would boldly advance on till the fate of their comrades was ascertained,—who now, perhaps, encircled by numbers, supporting unequal fight with a barbarous foe, relied in confidence upon the valour and faithfulness of their brother-soldiers! He then expressed his determination of instantly charging the enemy and marching in the direction of El Hamet, till he had a perfect view of the post and its adjacents.

At this moment the enemy kept up a galling fire: he had crept up and planted his little red flags, upon which he formed, to within fifty or sixty paces of the column, while nothing but a cap or a muzzle was perceptible above the sands. The 35th was ordered to wheel up a little to its right, and thus to charge into the hills; the light infantry along the edge of the lake. The charges were made with rapidity and effect: the 35th came up with a few of the enemy—the precipitation of the remainder saved them: not a flag was now visible, and those savages, who had been yelling and encouraging each other to the attack, with one accord now fled in all directions.

Had General Stewart given scope to the superior activity of our soldiers, many of the enemy must have fallen into our hands, or expired

under the bayonet. But the fear of our men scattering in such uneven ground, and of the cavalry taking advantage, made him restrain their impetuosity: at the same time, with our strong reserve in the plain, there was not much to be apprehended from the horse in the sand hills, now that the infantry was completely routed; but El Hamet was before his eyes, and no temporary success could compensate for weakening a corps that had such arduous duties to perform, and so difficult a retreat before it.

The corps now advanced towards El Hamet, not one of the enemy remaining even to watch it: on the contrary, he was seen flying over the sand hills at a rapid pace, apparently apprehensive of being thus far drawn to a distance from his strong-holds, in order to be fought to advantage. The prisoners we examined as to the fate of the detachment, but their language was unintelligible to the interpreters.

It was about 1 p.m. when the army changed direction, and after marching for about an hour and a half towards the Nile, we came upon ground affording a perfect view of both banks of the canal at El Hamet and the plain in its rear. There nothing was visible except some Turkish cavalry leisurely retiring on the other side of the position, and some enemy's tents pitched upon the bank itself. With glasses the ground was minutely examined, but no trace of a field of battle was to be discovered. Whatever was the fate of our comrades, it was certain they were no longer there. This gave rise to heart-rending apprehensions; the greatest portion of them were troops of a description not to yield to the last, and that would perish rather than tarnish their high and unsullied reputation. The 35th had particularly to lament its gallant light company, which not a year previous had so pre-eminently distinguished itself at Maida; and with the detachment were some of the best officers of the division. Indeed, to die bravely with arms in their hands was in every respect preferable to falling (if quarter was granted) into the hands of the barbarous foe to whom we were opposed.

A hope yet was entertained that already they might have fallen back to Etko, surrounded by numerous parties, preventing Colonel Macleod from communicating with the corps. Others flattered themselves that Captain Vincenzo, our guide, relying upon his knowledge of the country, had prevailed upon the Colonel to attempt the circuitous route of Rhamanie; thus giving the enemy the slip, and conveying his force into a plentiful country; where he was, if united in sufficient force, to have effected his retreat. It now only remained for General Stewart to retrace his steps, and push for the village of Etko as rapidly as his incumbrances and the fatigued state of the troops admitted: it was there only water and repose could be found; but if the enemy had sent troops to occupy it, our retreat could hardly be accomplished.

The troops faced about, and proceeded by the margin of the lake till 7 p.m., when they reached the point where hitherto our water communication was maintained by boats with the fleet. Here we found the naval officer in command, ignorant of our disasters; here also the hope of the detachment having preceded us vanished. The troops were halted; wine and bread served out, the sick and wounded, with the chief part of our incumbrances, including one 12-pounder, embarked. The train, now reduced to three light guns, admitted of more easy

movement, and we trusted that energy and exertion would enable us to overcome all difficulties. The embarkation, &c. occupied much time, so that it was not till 10 P.M. that the march recommenced; not till 1 A.M., on the 22nd, did we reach Etko. All there was tranquil; and the corps, broken down with a march of eighteen hours, most of the time in action, stood greatly in need of repose. Anxiety had augmented fatigue; and it was apprehended that great difficulties awaited us, and that the Turks, with a numerous body of cavalry, would not permit us quietly to retire through a country, particularly fitted for that arm. For the first three miles from Etko, towards the post of the caravansera, the route is by the lake, bordered by a generally open grove of date-trees, here and there mingled with thick underwood, well adapted for the mixed arms of infantry and cavalry. There it crosses to the sea over an open sandy desert, where not so much is to be apprehended. It was most desirable that the army should be immediately put in motion: beyond water, nothing was now to be procured at the village, which the inhabitants had mostly abandoned, well knowing what might be expected from our pursuers.

At length the troops moved from the left, and as the rear-guard descended from the heights, our videttes reported the enemy in sight, and it was naturally presumed that, taking advantage of the ground, he was determined to make us retreat fighting through the wood. Our flankers were sent out as far as possible, and every precaution adopted to repel the expected attack: nevertheless we marched through the grove without the exchange of a shot; nor until perfectly clear of it, crossing the sands and getting our left to the sea, did the enemy show himself in force, exchanging shots with our dragoons, and receiving a few rounds from our 64 pounders. The desert wind blew strong, bringing with it all the plagues of sand, insects, &c., that accompany this scourge. At length about three P.M. on the 22nd, the army arrived at the post of the caravansera. Captain Hallowell had pressed a number of djerms to bring down the remaining stores from Etko, and they happily got to the post soon after the troops.

It must not be omitted that on this day's march a man-of-war's gig was seen upon the lake pulling violently; it was bearing a dispatch from the Admiral's ship to General Stewart, from the Deputy Adjutant-General, enclosing one from the resident, Major Misset. In this letter the Major stated his having received authentic information from Fouha, that on the 18th inst. a large body of troops had passed that place, partly in boats, partly by land, on their way to relieve Rosetta. Fouha is about forty miles from Rosetta. The enemy gave us timely warning; but through a sad fatality the information passed by so circuitous a channel as to render it unavailing. First, it went to Alexandria to the Major, when, after digestion, it went to the General in Aboukir Bay; from whence, wind and weather serving, it was to be conveyed to the army, whose fate depended upon the nature of it. Had Major Misset remained at his post, or directed all intelligence to come first to Vincenzo, or Sheik Mahmoud, who continued in camp, for General Stewart's cognizance, the post of El Harnet might have been timeously withdrawn, and the army re-united, could have fallen back upon the caravansera in despite of all the hosts that Mohammed Ali could command. General Stewart, strange to the language and the country, was

left in camp with only Vincenzo and Sheikh Mahmoud, who, though both intelligent and faithful men, were subordinates, whilst all the magnates held distant positions, where they could do but little good, or guard against a naturally to be expected evil.

On further acquaintance with Egypt, and with the facility with which information can there be procured, it is almost incredible that so considerable a force could have been equipped at Cairo, and have arrived in front of our outposts without its having transpired: three days did the Turks take to proceed from Fouha: all their movements were, it may be presumed, equally slow; yet in a country where the wandering and unsubdued Arab does anything and goes anywhere for money, was their progress concealed from those whose fate hung upon their approach.

General Stewart despatched his afflicting report to the General-in-Chief, and various Arabs were sent off to procure us certain information as to the fate of our friends: this they promised to do, and soon performed. The corps commenced its embarkation on the 23rd, and there was now sufficient transport for the reduced number: it was, notwithstanding a heavy surf, completed early on the 24th, leaving (thanks to Captain Hallowell) nothing behind. That day the division marched towards Alexandria, and took up a position on the eastern heights.

It was satisfactory to observe that the troops, though unsuccessful, returned in undiminished confidence as to their superiority in courage, discipline, and every military virtue over the barbarian hordes to whom they had been opposed, and attributed their failure to one of those accidents of war to which military operations are exposed. Indeed they had good reason to be proud of their conduct. For three weeks they were subjected to every possible hardship, and many severe privations: they lay without cover, enduring by day the scorching rays of a blistering sun, and by night the piercing north wind and nitrous exhalations, which sweep and arise from the sands of Egypt. At night the poor huts that shaded them by day did not shelter them, for they lay without them, upon their arms, ready to repel any attack which the proximity of the enemy rendered probable. Their lines were within the fire of musketry, and no day passed without casualties occurring in them. All this was supported, not only with patience and resolution, but with the utmost cheerfulness. The officers setting the soldiers a noble example of patient endurance, not a murmur escaped.

In the various encounters with the enemy, discipline and courage had obtained for them uniform success; and in the last conflict the enemy was driven with a degree of success, convincing the soldiers that when united, their steady discipline must prevail; and that if prudence had justified it, the bloody field of El Hamet would have been avenged the very day on which that catastrophe occurred. Thus terminated the second expedition to Rosetta, as unsuccessful and unnecessary as the first, and productive of yet greater misfortunes. Our spies returned with the sad accounts of our detachment at El Hamet being overwhelmed by numbers, were all either killed, wounded, or made prisoners. It appears the detachment had never been reunited, the enemy having at all points broken through the position and cut them off in detail. Our loss was heavy, and in proportion to the number of the corps, unprecedentedly severe. Of this detachment about 350 were killed,

including that distinguished officer, Lieut.-Colonel Macleod, Captains Pike and Tarleton, 35th Regiment, with many others whose names equally deserve to be recorded; about 400, including wounded, remained prisoners. Their lives were spared through the humanity of the French consul, Drovetti, who, after the first attack at Rosetta, where the prisoners were all massacred, suggested to the Pacha that it would be more humane, as well as prudent, to offer to his soldiers, for a live man, double the sum that formerly was given for a head!

Extract from General Stewart's dispatch to General Fraser:—"No certain intelligence respecting the fate of the detachment under Lieut.-Colonel Macleod has yet reached me. General report confirms their defeat, on the morning of the 21st, with great loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners. On this I will make no comment. Every step which a sense of duty could dictate was taken to secure the post of El Hamet, and I sincerely trust it will appear to you that none which prudence could suggest was omitted in order to secure a junction with that detachment. That our unfortunate comrades did their duty must not be doubted; that all was lost, save honour, when they surrendered, those acquainted with the brave men composing it will most readily infer."

Little more remains to be said of the rash, ill-advised, and ill-executed expedition to Alexandria. Immediate steps were taken for placing the town in a posture of defence; the cut separating Lake Mareotis from the sea was again opened, and the sea rushing in, soon converted its former salt bed into an arm of the ocean, upon which the creative genius of Hallowell immediately displayed a most respectable flotilla. The western forts and line were put in a serviceable state; the narrow gorge at the cut was fortified, so that Alexandria and its territory were on all points secured against any force that Mohammed Ali could bring to bear on it. Abundant supplies poured into the place from the desert. The Arabs brought their wheat, their rice, their beasts for slaughter, either in despite of or through the Pacha's connivance, who probably got a portion of the high price which the Arabs demanded. The sea open, the garrison and inhabitants obtained all the luxuries of the Archipelago, and had there been any object in retaining Alexandria, there the army might have remained for any given time, reinforced as it had been by the 21st regiment. But the wise counsels that succeeded to the so-called *talents* led to its abandonment. A convention was entered upon with the Pacha, stipulating the evacuation of Alexandria upon the restoration of our prisoners, and his engaging not to exercise any measures of revenge against such of the natives as favoured our cause. This it was understood he honestly performed. The British troops consequently quitted the shores of Egypt on the 23rd of September, 1807, directing their course for Sicily, from whence only six months previous they had departed.

MILES.

ON A PARTICULAR ACTION OF THE JIB.

BY HENRY HAPER, LIEUT. R.N., S.P.R.A.S.

It is generally taken for granted by seamen, as a self-evident proposition, that the jib has the effect of lifting the ship's head, and they accordingly attribute the increased violence with which the ship plunges, as the wind freshens and the sea gets up, merely to the effort exerted by this powerful sail in dragging the ship through the seas. But it is evident that every force acting horizontally upon the ship, and applied above the surface of the water, must necessarily tend to cause her to decline towards the opposite side from that to which it is applied; every sail, therefore, must, in some degree, tend to depress the head, and thereby aggravate the plunging of the ship; and if at the same time the tendency of any sail, from the manner in which it is set, be such as to produce an opposite or raising effect, the final or total effect upon the ship can be due but to the *difference* of two contending efforts.

In the present paper it is not proposed to enter upon the general effect of the jib, but merely to consider the circumstances under which it acts either to raise or depress the ship's head.

It is not necessary, in order to understand the nature of the action in question, to refer at all to mathematical investigation, though this is indispensable in obtaining the *measures* of the effects produced. Accordingly, the treatment of the problem itself is deferred altogether to the end of this paper, where will be found the manner of reducing questions of this kind to calculation, with an example.

Suppose, in order to fix the attention, the jib to be a flat board, instead of a curved and flexible surface, which supposition does not affect the argument, and that the clue is fast amidships. Now, when the wind blows upon a sail, the effect produced by the pressures upon all parts is the same as if they took place at the *centre of effort*, or centre of gravity of the surface, which is two-thirds down the middle of this sail from the head; and the *direction* in which the total pressure takes effect is perpendicular to the surface. Hence, when the sail is thus hanging vertically, the total pressure or *resultant* springs from the centre of effort, and extends in a horizontal line directly to leeward, or eight points from the ship's head. This horizontal effort of the sail, which is the same in *direction*, though not in *intensity*, whatever may be the direction of the wind, has therefore no tendency to raise or depress the ship's head. But if the sheet be eased off and the sail revolve round the stay through two points and a half, the resultant will be found, in most ships, to lead two points above the horizontal plane, and two points before the beam; and this, as before, holds good without any regard to the direction of the wind—the sail of course being supposed to be trimmed full and not aback. In this position, therefore, there is an effort to draw the ship a-head, and at the same time to elevate her bow. If now we suppose the ship to be *heeled over* by the wind or other cause, it is evident that the resultant of the sail will itself be carried downwards, though at a corresponding angle: in most ships an inclination of a point and a half will cause the resultant of the jib (trimmed as above) to point below the horizontal plane; thus, therefore, there will now be a force to draw the ship a-head, as before the ship was inclined, and an effort to depress her bow.

In this last case there can arise no question of the final effect of the sail in depressing the bow, because it is the *sum* of the two efforts into

which the total action is resolved—namely, the direct effort or pull of the sail acting at a great elevation above the water, and the downward pressure of the sail acting at a point considerably before the centre of gravity;* but in any other case—namely, in which the resultant of the sail tends upwards, the final effect being the *difference* of two efforts must be determined by finding, by calculation, which of the two preponderates.

In all vessels the jib tends to lift the head while the vessel is upright, or but slightly heeled over; and also when the wind is aft, or upon the quarter, unless she is heeled over in a very extraordinary degree.

The elements necessary in calculating the following results are taken from Mr. Edye's 'Tables of Displacement;' and from these data it appears that, if the jib move through an angle of 25° round the jib-stay from its first position, the angle of inclination in different ships, at which this sail begins to tend altogether to depress the bow, is as follows:—In the 80-gun ship, $13\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$; in the 46-gun frigate, $12\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$; in the 18-gun brig, 11° ; in the schooner, 16° ; and in the cutter, $14\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. It appears also that, while the jib and fore-sail of the cutter are nearly equal in direct effort, the fore sail tends to aggravate the plunge more than the jib, in the proportion of 17 to 10, at an inclination of 20° .

When the jib is *eased in*, the stay becomes more vertical, while the centre of effort is both lowered and brought further aft. Its depressing effort will be found, accordingly, to be nearly the same, except that the leading of the sheet is somewhat changed.

When the jib-stay is slack, the sheet requires to be hauled farther aft, to make the sail stand. This diminishes the direct or drawing effort of the sail, and, at the same time, by flattening the foot, increases the downward effort.

In concluding the present brief notice, it may be observed that, though we cannot determine the absolute force of any sail, yet we can assign its several effects upon the ship, in their true relative proportions, and thus obtain useful conclusions. Thus, for example, we can infer, by help of the annexed formulæ, that the effect of the foretop-gallant-sail in an 18-gun brig, close hauled, and heeled over 25° , in causing her to plunge, is to that of the main-top-gallant sail (a sail of equal size, and set in the same manner) as 8 to 7.

As figures to exhibit the mechanical conditions of these questions would be very complicated, and as, besides, they are not necessary for those who are acquainted with theoretical mechanics, they are omitted.

Let the length of the vessel be considered as the axis of x , her breadth that of y and z vertical, the centre of gravity being the origin. Let R be the resultant or total pressure of the sail; this may be resolved into a horizontal force, X , to draw the ship a-head; also into Y , to press her to leeward; and into Z , a force acting directly upwards or downwards; then the effort f , or moment of force of the sail to cause rotation round the axis of y , that is, to elevate or depress the bow, is

$$f = Zx - Xz \dots (1.)$$

If Zx be the greater of these two, f is positive, or the effect is to raise the bow; if it is the lesser, the effect is depressing.

* The effect of a force acting in a vertical line, to raise either end of the vessel, is altogether independent of the height above the centre of gravity (i. e. of the place in the vertical line, where it acts), and would be the same whether it acted higher or lower. So again, the effort of a horizontal force, or direct pull, in raising or depressing either end of the vessel, is independent of the horizontal distance from the centre of gravity (i. e. of the place in the horizontal line, where it acts), and would be the same whether it acted before or abaft the centre of gravity.

If ι be the angle of elevation which R makes with the horizontal plane, and ϕ the angle, or difference of azimuth, between the ship's head and the horizontal projection of R , then, if R is the pressure on the sail, $Z = R \sin \iota$, $X = R \cos \iota \cos \phi$; hence

$$f = R x \sin \iota - R z \cos \iota \cos \phi \dots (2).$$

The angles ι and ϕ depend entirely, in any case, upon the manner in which the sail is set, and x and z upon the place of its centre of effort with respect to the centre of gravity of the ship. We have now, therefore, to express ι and ϕ in terms of the angle π which the jib-stay makes with the horizon, and ψ , the angle made by the plane of the sail, when set with the plane of the masts, the plane of the sail revolving round the jib-stay as an axis. The following equations are easily deduced,

$$\sin \iota = \cos \pi \sin \psi \quad (3). \quad \text{Whence } \cos \iota = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \pi \sin^2 \psi} \dots (4),$$

$$\text{and} \quad \cos \phi = \frac{\sin \pi \sin \psi}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \pi \sin^2 \psi}} \dots (5).$$

$$\text{Hence } f = R (x \cos \pi \sin \psi - z \sin \pi \sin \psi) \dots (6).$$

This equation, like (2), is general. When the wind is aft, and the jib as nearly square as such a sail can be, ψ is large. Suppose it 90° for shortness, and $\pi = 45^\circ$ for ex., then

$$f = 0.7 P (x - z) \text{ nearly.}$$

Hence, since x is always greater than z , the jib has always a powerful lifting effort when the wind is aft or on the quarter.

We have now to consider the case in which the ship is heeled through an angle θ . We may suppose R to be constant, though, in fact, the increasing force of the wind to heel the ship will increase R more than the inclination diminishes it; resuming, therefore, (2), and accenting the other quantities,

$$f' = R (x' \sin \iota' - z' \cos \iota' \cos \phi')$$

$$\text{now } x' = x, z' = z \cos \theta; \sin \iota' = \sin \iota \cos \theta - \cos \iota \sin \phi \sin \theta \dots (7),$$

and $\cos \iota' \cos \phi' = \cos \iota \cos \phi$; whence we obtain, after substituting as before, π and ψ ,

$$f' = R [x (\cos \pi \sin \psi \cos \theta - \cos \psi \sin \theta) - z \sin \pi \sin \psi \cos \theta] \dots (8).$$

This expression, which is complete for all values of the elements concerned, exhibits the effect of a sail set on a mast or stay, and anywhere situated, in elevating or depressing the bow of the vessel, under any inclination. By changing the sign of x , the case is that of a sail *abaft* the centre of gravity; when the sign of $\cos \pi$ is changed, the mast *rakes forward*; when that of $\sin \psi$ is changed, the sail is taken *aback*; and when that of $\sin \theta$ is changed, the ship heels to *windward*.

The equation (7) affords the angle θ to which a vessel must heel, so that the resultant of a sail trimmed to any proposed angle ψ with the plane of the masts, may be horizontal, or $\sin \iota' = 0$, whence $\tan \theta = \cos \pi \tan \psi \dots (9)$

When the jib is eased in, x and z diminish, while π increases.

The direct effort of the sail is

$$R \sin \pi \sin \psi \cos \theta \dots (10)$$

The value of θ , at which the jib is neutral as regards plunging, is formed by making (8) = 0, whence $\tan \theta = \tan \psi \cos \pi - \frac{z}{x} \sin \pi \dots (11)$

Ex.—In the 46-gun frigate $x = 103$ feet, $z = 48$ feet, $\pi = 39\frac{1}{2}^\circ$, assume $\psi = 25^\circ$, then $\tan \theta = 0.4663 (7716 - \frac{48}{103} \cdot 2964)$, which gives $\theta = 12\frac{1}{2}^\circ$.

The force R is an unknown function of the area of the sail, the force and direction of the wind. In two sails similarly set, R is supposed to be as the area.

It is not worth while to introduce the pitching of the ship, or motion in the plane xz , as this would complicate the expressions without corresponding utility, since the pitching is confined to much narrower limits than the heeling, and is besides an alternating motion.

NARRATIVE OF THE EXPEDITION TO COORG IN 1834.

PART III.

HEAD-QUARTER DIVISION—COL. P. LINDSAY.

On the morning of the 3rd of April Colonel P. Lindsay, with the head-quarter division of the Coorg field force, broke up from his encamping-ground at Hebhauly, and advanced on Ramasamy, Curnawe. The pagoda here was occupied by the enemy, but was hastily abandoned; and the force effected the passage of the Ghaut. The enemy again made a stand, at a difficult barrier situated in a thick jungle, the approach to which was much obstructed; but the troops speedily dislodged and drove them off. The enemy were reported to have lost eight or ten people-killed, and one gun and twelve prisoners were taken. The loss on our side was but slight: three men wounded, and a horse shot under Lieutenant Hicks, D.A.A.G.

EASTERN COLUMN—LIEUT.-COL. STEWART.

In consequence of the commissariat supplies not having been brought over the river the evening before, Lieut.-Colonel Stewart was detained on his encamping-ground until after mid-day. The passage of rivers in India, with troops, is always interesting, and sometimes, owing to the freshes, dangerous—particularly when having to cross them before daylight. To prevent confusion in these cases, a couple of officers are generally sent on in advance for the purpose of providing lighted torches for both banks; of ascertaining whether there are, or are not, fords; and of procuring a sufficient number of villagers to carry the baggage and ammunition in and out of the boats. The detachment under Captain (now Major) Willat's command had to cross many rivers and backwaters between Cannanore and Coombla. They had with them five elephants, and 80 or 100 bullocks; and nothing could have been more beautiful than the scene they presented on the banks of a deep and rapid river, overhung with forest-trees and the feathery bamboo: a hundred torches flashing amongst the foliage on either bank, occasionally revealing red coats, glittering bayonets, or a huge elephant lying down to be unloaded, whilst another, just rising with his mahoot on his neck, was walking sedately to where he was to attempt the passage. One splash is heard, and another, and the elephants are struggling through the waters: they swim with ease, but their motions are tremendous—at one moment exposing to full view the mahoot patting his charge's head to keep him in good humour, and the next nearly burying him in the stream. Nearly at the same time the bullocks are swimming in a drove—the palankeens or doolies are arriving with the sick—and part of the troops, with torches in every boat, and each man with his firelock in his hand, are distinctly seen crossing nearly in a line—whilst empty boats, returning with but one torch each, appear like little stars on the dark surface of the deep: mirth and good humour abound amongst the officers and men—the joke goes round—and it is only the strictness with which the men are examined and numbered off when getting into the boats which shows, in truth, that in essentials everything is under the rule of discipline.

The means of transport are of two sorts: round wicker boats, the same as used in the days of Porus and Alexander, covered with horse

or bullock skins, and, though leaky, are very safe; and two canoes joined stem and stem, and stern and stern, with boards, sometimes nearly forming a raft; add to these the single flat-bottomed canoe—the most dangerous of all, and always used at night, and in a strong tide-way, with great reluctance.

But to return to Colonel Stewart. His guides having made off the day before he quitted his encampment, he was much perplexed, but, nevertheless, continued to advance. Having marched about two miles, a fire was opened on the advanced guard from a high stockade, but at a great distance, only a few spent balls reaching the head of the column. A gun was immediately brought up, whilst a party was detached to each flank to carry the breastwork and barriers. The success of this manoeuvre was complete; the enemy evacuating their post as our men reached the crest of their immense barriers, rising one above another to the height of fifty feet, overgrown with thorns, and so steep as to be very difficult of access. They here lost seven or eight men, amongst them a Mogul or Patan named Kurreem Khan, who had reinforced the place the evening before with a detachment of 300 men, in consequence, as we have understood, of our having forced the passage of the Cauvery—and on whose desperate valour there is reason to suppose the Rajah placed the utmost confidence for the defence of this important post, which would appear to be the key of the country between Ramasamy Curnaweve and Seedapoor; having in its rear a high road in excellent order leading direct to Mercara.

On account of an accident happening to one of the gun-carriages, and only originally possessing two, Lieut.-Colonel Stewart encamped a little beyond the stockade, which was a large square place measuring nearly half a mile across. He first, however, destroyed some of the defences on the Mercara road—at first from ignorance of its being the wrong road, and afterwards from a desire to delude the enemy as to the route he intended to pursue.

NORTHERN COLUMN—COL. WAUGH.

At daylight on the morning of the 3rd the force under Colonel Waugh moved off its ground; and, although there was a general feeling throughout the brigade that difficulties were that day to be overcome, and hard fighting to be expected, a confidence was entertained that before nightfall a junction would be effected with the force under the command of Colonel Lindsay, C.B. The advanced guard consisted of 80 Europeans, 160 Native Infantry, and 80 Pioneers, under the command of Major Bird, 31st N.I.

After the first two miles the road almost entirely disappeared, and became so bad that the pioneers were busily employed for two hours in bringing the guns half a mile. Between seven and eight a distant cannonade was heard: it was Colonel Lindsay attacking the pagoda at Ramasamy Curnaweve. About half-past nine the column had arrived at the margin of a dense jungle, in which it was evident the enemy was posted. Colonel Waugh, perceiving this, directed the head of the column to diverge off the road and to the left, and then resume its course in a line parallel to the road—avoiding a fire from a breastwork, which was thus placed at too great a distance to do any injury. The advance here halted to allow the guns to come up. From the nature

of the country, the number of the enemy, and the little information that had been obtained, it now became evident that we were close to the position of the Coorgah. Our flankers and the rifles lay well covered in the jungle, covering the working parties; and, although we knew it not at the time, the stockade was within a mile and a half of the spot which afforded them such excellent cover. Its position was on the top of a range of heights of considerable elevation, inclining slightly to our left, thickly studded with jungle and magnificent teak-trees, to the very summit, affording every advantage for a reconnoissance. The force had now halted nearly two hours, and the guns had come up; no reconnoitring parties had, however, been sent out; the skirmishers were drawn in, and the advance, under Major Bird, was ordered to proceed. This advance, which was the attacking party, had thus two duties to perform, which can scarcely be both well done in a close, woody, country—namely, to reconnoitre and attack. The first, in close cover, ought to be effected by pushing on an officer, a few sharp non-commissioned officers, and some intelligent men, well and closely supported, who should advance and retire from and to their supports according to circumstances, and the force of the enemy opposed to them; when, the object being attained, the stockade should be battered in front by the artillery, and then stormed, should it not be possible to turn its flanks. Should that, however, be practicable, a charge in the rear of each flank, with a few rounds in front from the artillery, followed up by a front attack, soon settles the affair.

Major Bird, indeed, on advancing, sent for Captain Hutchinson, and ordered him to form a reconnoitring party with half the advance. This was done, and they took a détour to their right in hopes of reaching the left flank of the stockade; but before that could be done the recall was sounded, and the advance was again concentrated.

The intention of the Brigadier was doubtless to attack the stockade or barrier on each flank with the divided advanced guard, and in front with the artillery. But the guns could not be brought nearer than three-quarters of a mile to the stockade; and owing to the ignorance, or, more probably, treachery of the guides (who ought to have been marched as prisoners, which might have prevented their treachery, and shot when they had accomplished it), both intended flanking parties were brought up directly in front of the centre of the stockade, where they were exposed to a cross fire, and suffered greatly.

The advance, under Captain Hutchinson, intended to attack the left flank of the stockade, obliqued slightly to the right; and being headed by a guide who possessed the confidence of the Brigadier, he hoped speedily to effect his object. Instead of this, however, he was led through deep ravines, and amongst felled trees, and was brought up to within a hundred yards of the front of the stockade, when it was reported to him that Major Bird, who was supposed to have gone off to turn the right flank, was in the rear, following up the same desperately bad road that Hutchinson's party had been led into. Hutchinson, therefore, halted for Major Bird, who having joined him, the whole waited a short time previous to attacking, to enable the pioneers to join. The advance was thus all together in front of the stockade, and near the barrier-gate subsequently denominated by the natives the "Gate of Slaughter." This gate was flanked by small bastions, on one of which a small gun,

protected by gabions, was mounted. A deep ditch, partly filled with a very strong and formidable thorn, ran along the face of the stockade, which extended on either side of the gateway for half a mile. A strong palisade without, with a glacis, covered the inner walls. There were many weak points in the work, it is true; but the whole was so perfectly screened by jungle that it would have taken several hours to have properly reconnoitred it.

When halting in this position down came the anticipated volley of musketry. Cheerful huzzas responded to the fire, and Major Bird and Lieutenant Heriot, H.M. 55th, instantly led on the leading sections, which divided to the right and left, and rapidly commenced a roar of musketry along both breasts of the stockade. Eight or ten pioneers now came up and advanced to the barrier, but were almost instantly either killed or wounded. Captain Hutchinson then, by order of Major Bird, went down the pathway he had formerly ascended with his men, and which was exposed to a cross fire from both flanks of the stockade, in the hope of being able to bring up some more pioneers. In returning with these he was shot through the wrist.

Lieutenant Heriot, finding his men fall very fast, ordered them to fall back behind some bushes, which afforded but slight protection. From this position rush after rush was made at the palisades, but without success: in one of these Lieutenant Heriot fell severely wounded. Major Bird now made several gallant but ineffectual attempts to bring up the ladders, but they failed, and the barrier-gate was left unforced. So destructive was the fire on this spot, that nothing could approach it and live: a party of pioneers made the attempt, but they were all instantly killed or wounded, with the European pioneer who led them on. Three sergeants of H.M. 55th, and many privates, now lay dead near this spot, and a report having been made to Colonel Waugh, who was in the rear with the guns at the open space before the road turns into the jungle, of the untoward state of affairs, he ordered up a fresh reinforcement of eighty Europeans. A reinforcement of fifty Europeans and the greater part of the 31st N.I. had previously been sent. Lieut.-Colonel Mill, who commanded H.M. 55th, placed himself at the head of these, and was marching off, when the remainder of his corps called out—"Let us all go with old Charley, we will not be left behind;" and followed their comrades: nor can I at present understand how these men could pass Colonel Waugh, without his having seen them, and prevented their advance had he thought fit.

As soon as Colonel Mill reached the scene of action he perceived what a hopeless case it was. The Europeans he had brought with him only increased the confusion: they opened a brisk but useless fire against the loopholed walls and bastions, and a great many of them thus fell, increasing the already large list of casualties. Lieut.-Colonel Mill himself fell shortly after reaching the ground: he remained much exposed, encouraging his men, and was shot through the lungs. Ensign Robertson, 9th N.I., had been killed early in the action; and Ensign Babington, 31st N.I., was here killed by a jinjal ball. Lieutenant Heriot, H.M. 55th, when being carried off the field, where he had so nobly behaved, and so much distinguished himself, was again hit; the ball passing through his left arm, which lay over his heart, and passing off by his left side.

Many officers had been wounded; the troops had been under fire for four hours, and finding their efforts totally ineffectual, became dispirited; but no order had as yet been given for the retreat. It is possible Colonel Waugh had been misled as to the strength and position of the place, and of the impracticability of its being taken at the point attacked; for nothing could have exceeded the gallantry of the troops employed in the assault. It was remarked that Lieutenant de Warenne, H.M. 55th, when the scaling-ladders were brought up, was seen using every possible exertion to fix them at the barrier with his own hands, whilst under a very heavy fire.

Major Bird, finding how impossible it was to force the works of the enemy, or to check their fire, now consulted with the next senior officer; and they decided on a retreat, which was effected with great difficulty. The severely wounded could not be removed from the position, an attempt to carry off the body of Lieut.-Colonel Mill having entirely failed, two of the carriers being killed. In this unfortunate affair we lost—

		KILLED.			
Europeans	Officers	.	.	.	3
	Rank and file	.	.	.	29
Natives	Rank and file	.	.	.	16
					48
		WOUNDED.			
Europeans	Officers	.	.	.	6
	Rank and file	.	.	.	68
Natives	Rank and file	.	.	.	43
					117
Killed					48
Total killed and wounded					165

The Coorgs, finding we were retreating, gave a shout of victory, and sallied out to murder and plunder any who were left on the field. They gave no quarter, and began firing the jungle around the retreating force, which experienced some little confusion at first. This, however, was speedily remedied, and the retreat steadily conducted. It was covered by two companies of the 31st N.I., under Lieutenants Briggs and Brett. The flanking parties were furnished by the 9th N.I. The enemy hovering on the flanks continued to fire on the retreating column, but did no execution: a party of them pushed on and occupied some hills close to the encamping ground, and on the arrival of the head of the column opened a fire. They were, however, soon driven away from their position, but during the night continued firing on the camp from a distance, without making any attack, which they might have done with great advantage. The ground taken up for the camp was an open space surrounded by jungle, being the spot occupied the preceding night.

WESTERN COLUMN—COL. FOWLIS.

The first obstacle which opposed itself to the advance of the column under Colonel Fowles on the morning of the third was a stockade on the further side of the Stony river, which I have before mentioned, and in reconnoitring which poor Erskine had been killed the day before. The country on our side of the Stony or Irikoor river was covered with thick jungle to the very margin of the now nearly dried-up stream,

affording every advantage for reconnoitring with comparative safety. A hundred or a hundred and fifty yards lower down the stream than the stockade, and on our side, there was a jungle pathway leading to a narrow bridge, on crossing which the road ascended a steep hill, from which position the stockade might have been fired into by musketry. The bridge (then unnecessary to us) deserves mentioning from its curious construction. The bed of the river in this place being a sheet of granite, buttresses, or supports for arches, could only have been fixed with difficulty and expense, which the Rajah was unlikely to put himself to for the good of his people; though the commerce of his country with the sea-coast was almost entirely carried on by this road. Large and strong gabions were therefore placed at the necessary distances, and these, being filled with stones, served as a foundation to supports of timber: cross-bars connected these, and the flooring of the bridge was neatly made of split bamboos, and the whole firmly lashed together by the creeping cane, and the bark of the tree called "kyoo-loo," which makes excellent ropes. This sort of bridge may be constructed with the greatest rapidity, and, unless the water is of great depth, of sufficient solidity to pass over bodies of infantry. As the guns could be brought close to the stockade without difficulty, this could not be attended to; a few rounds of canister and grape drove out the enemy, and the place was stormed and carried with trifling loss. Here one of the Coorg chiefs, and a man of some consequence amongst them, was killed fighting hand to hand with a private of the 48th, and Lieutenant Gibbs of the 48th was wounded.

This frontier defence was merely a stone and mud wall about seven feet high, with hollow bamboos built into it for loopholes: it formed three sides of a square, and contained one or two houses, which were abandoned at our approach; and afterwards needlessly or carelessly burnt.

Colonel Fowles marched at six A.M. right in front; and, having driven the enemy from their first position, began ascending the ghaut. The road had been an exceedingly good one, and was made by direction of the Company when on friendly terms with the Rajah of Coorg: the enemy, however, had succeeded in rendering it nearly impassable for artillery, by means of abbatis and the trunks of large trees, which had been so felled as to fall across the road, and from behind which, as the column advanced, a few shots were sure to be fired by the active Coorgs, who ran away into the jungle to reload. The country to the left of the road was, at the beginning of the pass, rather open: it soon, however, became precipitous, and ere long ended in an immense ravine, through which the Stony river dashed from rock to rock. A few jinjalls were placed high up the hill on the far side of this ravine, but they could no where rake the column, and the distance was too great to make them worthy of attention, and it was only necessary to defend the right flank from the annoying fire from the jungle, which it was useless returning from the road. At first, however, no skirmishers were thrown out on this flank, but, on the loss becoming heavier, the flank companies of H.M. 48th and the grenadiers of the 32nd N.I. were thrown out to keep back the skirmishers of the enemy, and to turn any barriers that might be encountered.

The Coorgs were unwilling to give up their advantageous position,

or to expose the flanks of their defences, and fought manfully hand to hand : but the Coorg knife, though a formidable weapon in itself, is no match for the bayonet ; neither, when pressed, had they time to load their awkward matchlocks, and their loss was very severe. Captain Budd, 32nd N.I., and Lieutenants Gibbs, Donelan, and O'Brien, H.M. 48th, were thanked in orders for their gallantry on this occasion, as was also volunteer Thomas Bell, son of Lieut.-Colonel Bell, commanding the 48th. He made himself conspicuous in every attack and skirmish with the enemy.

The obstacles thrown in the way of the advancing force were such as to detain them ten hours marching three miles. In mentioning this I do not allude to two stockades, and two barriers, which were turned and forced, but principally to the trunks of large trees which were thrown across the road to prevent the passage of the guns. Some of these were cut in two, others dug under, and, when these means appeared too troublesome, a road was cut through the jungle by the pioneers, who were always in advance, and in whose praise too much cannot be said. The exertions made to get the guns up the pass were tremendous ; officers and men, Europeans and Natives, put their shoulders to the wheel ; and at four P.M. every one was so much exhausted that the Brigadier deemed it necessary to order the force to take up a position for the night on a very small piece of ground surrounded by jungle, and about three miles and a half from the bottom of the ghaut. The damp air of the jungle, and the elevation to which the force had attained, made the night appear intensely cold ; but all were tired enough to sleep ; and the night was passed with only one disturbance, occasioned by a number of lights appearing in the jungle in front, which were withdrawn on a shell being thrown amongst them. I have heard it said that by good practice, assisted by good fortune, this shell pitched into a fire around which some of the leaders of the Coorgs were sitting with their men ; and bursting, killed and wounded many, which, in addition to their loss of 4 chiefs and 250 men, which they had experienced during the day, so discouraged them that they did not oppose the advance of Colonel Fowles the following morning.

This may, or may not be the case ; it is certain they dread shells, and equally so that, when they have the best of it, and a chance of plunder, they care little about flags of truce, as the small force under Lieut.-Colonel Jackson was fired on when retreating, and was nearly being destroyed, by a large body of troops of the Rajah, many of whom, I have no doubt, had been opposing Colonel Fowles's force, and who pursued him until the evening of the 7th ; and it was only when he got out of reach of their ambuscades that it was presented, though they must have had it on the 4th at latest.

The force bivouacked in the best way it could. A strong party, with a gun and mortar, was pushed in advance. The flank companies of regiments were posted as piquets on the hills to the right, which commanded the position ; and, although they were occasionally molested by the skirmishers of the enemy, nothing of consequence occurred during the night.

Taking into consideration the force of the enemy, and the difficult nature of the country, our loss was very slight, which must be attributed to sending out plenty of skirmishers on the exposed flank.

Wounded, Captain Butterworth, Staff, Lieut. Gibbs, 48th.

KILLED.

Europeans	{ Privates	.	.	.	.	.	4
	{ Dresser	.	.	.	.	.	1
Natives	Privates	.	.	.	.	.	6
							11

WOUNDED.

Europeans	{ Serjeant	.	.	.	.	.	1
	{ Corporal	.	.	.	.	.	1
	{ Privates	.	.	.	.	.	14
Natives	{ Serjeant	.	.	.	.	.	1
	{ Corporal	.	.	.	.	.	1
	{ Privates	.	.	.	.	.	16

Killed 34
 11

Killed and wounded, Captain, 1; Lieut. 1; and rank and file, 45

WESTERN AUXILIARY FORCE—LIEUT.-COLONEL JACKSON.

Early on the morning of the 3rd orders were given by Lieut.-Colonel Jackson to form two reconnoitring parties; one to proceed on the Buntwall road, where it was reported some of the enemy had been seen, and the other and larger to march, along the road leading to Ballarypettah, and to reconnoitre a stockade reported to be at some distance. The smaller of these parties, under Lieut. Stubbs, H. M. 48th, advanced for three miles, and, finding all quiet, and no trace of an enemy, returned to the camp. The larger, consisting of 40 Europeans and 120 Sepoys, was commanded by Captain Noble, 40th N. I., and accompanied by Captain M'Cleverty, H. M. 48th, Brigade-Major. It left the camp at about 7 A.M., and after penetrating, by an excessively bad road, about four miles, its advanced skirmishers fell in with the abandoned weapons and rice of a piquet which the enemy had pushed forward on the road. Owing to the thickly-wooded hills and thick jungle, the enemy escaped without being seen. Proceeding cautiously rather less than a mile further, the situation of the stockade became visible. Whilst feeling the way with an advanced party, winding amongst steep and wooded hills, with a most impracticable country on both sides, a sudden turn of the road leading under a high jungly bank placed Captain Noble directly in front of the stockade. A straight and steep ascent led up to the gate, distant about a hundred yards, flanked by wooded hills crested with the prolongations of the stockade. When Captain Noble had advanced as far as he considered prudent, he halted the main body, and, having directed the subaltern commanding the party of the 48th to support him with a few men, he ran forward to a tree distant not more than fifty yards from the gate, and completed the reconnoissance on that side.

Whilst he was doing this Captain M'Cleverty was endeavouring to penetrate a small pathway which appeared to lead to the proper left of the stockade. This the enemy, who had already been seen in pretty good numbers dodging about in the jungle, would not allow, and one or two shots were fired at him. This appeared a signal for a general volley, which was poured in from all sides, and from the high trees with which the party was surrounded, killing and wounding twenty or thirty men. The little party in advance were all either killed or wounded; the doolie-bearers dropped their doolies, and foolishly rushed into the jungle, where they were probably murdered, and the guides, profiting by

the momentary confusion, followed their example. The reconnoissance had been, however, completed as far as was deemed necessary, and the order was given to retire; but the guides had led the party through bye-paths; and there were many leading in all directions, and equally alike. A wrong one was taken, and the party must inevitably have been destroyed in the jungle, had it not been for Captain M'Cleverty, H. M. 48th, who, having narrowly examined the formation of the ground when advancing, was enabled to extricate the party, guiding it back to where the road was more beaten. But even this momentary delay had cost some lives, and the horses of the four officers, who had dismounted when nearing the stockade.

Regularity was, however, now attained. A sharp fire was kept up on any who allowed themselves to be seen in the jungle, and the retreat was steadily conducted. The road by degrees became a little more open, and, as the Coorgs did not willingly expose themselves to our fire, the loss became less severe. Still, however, the active enemy was enabled to occupy every post of vantage on the flanks, and sometimes in advance. A few cavalry, and two very small guns, followed in the rear.

Soon after quitting the thickest part of the jungle, Ensign Johnstone, 51st N. I., was slightly wounded. He had volunteered for the occasion; and had only joined the force the day before. Having no command, he had taken his gun, and delayed in the rear, firing at the advance of the enemy, when he was again hit in the body, and fell. It was some little time before this was known, as the force was descending a small and rather steep valley, on the crest of which he was hit; but when the other summit had been attained, he was seen on the ground, with two of the enemy near him, and one who was leaning over him. This man was almost immediately wounded. I mention this occurrence particularly, as, when I was in the Coorg country afterwards, the Political Resident inquired of me if I had heard of the man who drank poor Johnstone's blood. I had not, and was informed that it was the fact: that the Coorg had promised the Rajah that he would drink the blood of an English officer before he returned; that he fulfilled his promise to the letter, and was rewarded by the Rajah for his brutal deed. This was corroborated to me by the Coorg chiefs who were engaged against that party on that day; and the man himself at that time publicly acknowledged it, and boasted of the fact. I might have questioned him myself, but declined.

The reconnoitring party continued to retire fighting for about four miles. Their ammunition was nearly expended, and, from the want of water, and the fatigue of helping on the wounded, every one was so exhausted that the fire was slackening; and the Coorgs were momentarily becoming more bold, and closing in greater numbers around what they now considered their certain prey. But by this time the continued and approaching fire had been heard in camp, and Lieut.-Colonel Jackson sent up two strong parties as supports. Lieut. Tidy, H. M. 48th, with part of this force, met and drove back the Coorgs with severe loss, and, thus covered, the reconnoitring party reached the camp without further loss, the enemy not daring to press the fresh troops sent as supports.

The loss out of 160 men was, however, severe.

Ensign Johnstone, 51st N. I., killed.

Lieut. Webber Smith, H. M. 48th, wounded (slightly).

		KILLED.				
Europeans	{ Ensign	.	.	.	.	1
	{ Serjeant	.	.	.	.	1
	{ Rank and file	.	.	.	.	8
Natives	{ Serjeant	.	.	.	.	2
	{ Drummer	.	.	.	.	1
	{ Rank and file	.	.	.	.	17
						<hr/> 30
		WOUNDED.				
Europeans	{ Lieutenant	.	.	.	.	1
	{ Rank and file	.	.	.	.	6
Natives	{ Serjeant	.	.	.	.	1
	{ Rank and file	.	.	.	.	28
						<hr/> 36
Killed						<hr/> 30

Killed and wounded . . . 66

Followers and doolie-bearers, 16 killed and missing, 2 wounded, 4 horses killed and missing.

The Coorgas followed up the advantage they had gained, and placed ambuscades in every available position round the camp, and a strong one on the road which had been reconnoitred. A report was set afloat that some wounded men had not been brought in, and in particular a young serjeant, whose loss was much regretted; and a small party of brave men accompanied the young brother of the serjeant (Barlow, H. M. 48th), with the visionary hope of being able to ascertain the truth. They left the camp on this useless but gallant attempt, without the authority of their officers; and were immediately driven back with loss; neither could a reconnoissance in force be again attempted. The greater part of the brigade had been engaged or marching all day; and having assembled shortly before sunset in camp, from the number of the enemy in the vicinity, two-thirds were again sent out on piquet, to prevent, if possible, a night attack on the camp, which was expected, and which would have ended in the flight of every native follower.

It is very much to be regretted that this little force had not two or three small guns; they are always useful, besides having a great moral effect on the natives on both sides. Some of the defences employed by the Coorgas were simply trunks of small trees, seven or eight feet high, wattled together, crossing the road, and defended on their flanks by deep ravines or tangled jungle. A few six-pounder shot would speedily ruin this little obstacle, which, however, becomes much more serious when it is necessary to charge up a narrow road to it, and cut it down in the face of a numerous musketry. In addition to this, our troops are exposed to great disadvantages in endeavouring to outflank these barriers. The jungle in which they are placed is almost invariably dense; and struggling through this, with cross-belts, pouch, bayonet, scabbard, and, above all, with the heavy and useless shako, is enough, under a hot sun, speedily to exhaust the strongest man. What little warfare there now is, or may be, in the southern parts of India, must be principally in jungle, where rifles and light artillery are the most useful arms. The natives dread artillery, and a few shells thrown into a stockade would ensure its speedy abandonment.

One of two spies were caught creeping into the camp at night; but the piquets were not attacked, and the night passed quietly away.

I. W. S.

[To be continued.]

DIARY OF A RUN TO THE NORTH COAST OF FRANCE.

NORMANDY, as we all know, is one of the very few parts of France that puts one at all in mind of home as one looks across the country from the top of a *digue*. Hereabouts, near Carentan, St. Lo, Vire, &c., ranging into Brittany, it has very much the air, at a distance particularly, from the division of the fields, hedges, trees along them, and in the careful cultivation, but go where we will, there is the comfortable feeling wanting of neat farm-houses; some there are, to be sure, especially in Brittany, but there is no such thing as a cottage *ornée*, or a villa, far or near. One often hears, in the towns, of the French going to the country for the summer and autumn, but I never could understand where they go to. From Paris, indeed, they go to some country town or village, for their *châteaux* are few indeed, and far between, and when such a factory does stand at the further end of two exact rows of trees, it looks woefully forlorn and out of order, and is, in fact, generally shut up, owned by the separated children of the sire, who may be found in the *secondes et troisièmes étages* in Paris, perhaps not liking to sell it, and yet not quite agreed about the division of it and their domain, thence, in part, the absence of country gentility, the small *noblesse*, and the few well to do, and aspiring to be gentry, living on a very slender income, are invariably to be found in the various towns. It is, besides, true, of course, that they have no taste for a pure country life, how should they? And yet we hear Frenchmen talk of "*la chasse*," but it is always much after the fashion of our cockney sportsmen. As to farming, that is entirely left to the working people, sensibly enough, for gentlemen farmers make sad hash of it, even with ourselves, but French gentlemen hardly know a turnip from beet-root in the fields—certainly not barley from wheat, they would rather play at politics or *carte*, or study the exact sciences, for the French are very clever and studious, when they take that way, and more patient and persevering than we are in the upper walks of life.

There is a plant very much cultivated in Lower Normandy and other parts, which we know nothing of in England, and from which they make an immense quantity of oil at a very cheap rate, I allude to the *Colza*. The oil of *Colza* lights their towns, their lighthouses, is contracted for in their dock yards, and is, I believe, besides, used for most domestic purposes; where we use whale oil, with the difference, that it is not one quarter so expensive, with a sure supply to any extent. This is the only thing that strikes me as peculiar in their agriculture. They raise, however, much more buckwheat than we do (*sarrasin*), from which they make excellent cakes (*galettes*—I often ask for them, but it is not the season for them), being a grain that will put up with poor land, I think we neglect it too much, it is rarely seen now in England, but is much cultivated in the United States, where they are famous for their buckwheat cakes.

Came in on the pretty river Vire in the evening (driving through Carentan this time), a mile and a half beyond the town. As high as the sloops and small craft come up. The country now soon grows hilly, the river bearing the features of a rapid, brawling stream.

Stopped at the *Chef-lieu* of St. Lo—a rather pretty town, seated on

abrupt hills over the river, full of the picturesque. The contrivances of stoppages on the road without any apparent reason is admirable: here we walked about (after a basin of soup, dreadfully *maigre*), for two hours, in a cold moon-light, with the additional pleasure to reflect on, that there was no going on inside, in spite of previous confident promises, as all the vacant places were bespoken.—*Apropos* of soup (which is always villanous in France, except at a private table), I afterwards met a good-natured man, a Captain in the Navy, who told me he had an awkward adventure here about this very bewatered soup. The moment the *diligence* stops, three or four *demoiselles*, from rival hotels or *cafés*, rush out to bespeak your gullibility in the “*refraichissement*” way; to wit, said soup, or supper, if you like to venture. In an evil moment, it seems, he sat himself down for a regular meal, but whether he began too late, or Boniface kept the solids back purposely, it did not appear; in fine, he had only discussed the basin of leguminised hot water (salted), when he was summoned to start, *re infecta*, at which he flew into a great passion, and left the room without paying. The *demoiselle* flew after him, insisting on payment for the soup at any rate, which he stoutly resisted, on the plea that the whole thing was a regular joke in: indeed, so it was; but Mademoiselle stuck to him so clamorously, that at last he threw the required *sous* in her face! This was a deadly indignity, and I think he said he narrowly escaped a more serious row at the moment, by the *voiture* driving off. It startled me how such a thing could possibly have taken place with a very good-natured man, as he undoubtedly was, had he but had more French, or known the French better! but gusts of passion make us act strange tricks, occasionally, in the wrong place.

Rumbled through Bayeux towards midnight: though not a large town, its streets seemed interminable with a strange shaded moonlit mystery about its old walls, threading our way through their intricacies, as if now and then the horses were to be driven through them; then a sudden turn would bring us to another labyrinth. It is famous for its cathedral and tapestry, connected with the interwoven histories of Normandy with England: and this is all I know.

I am sure my kind readers will be obliged to me, if I can at all judge by my own sensations on reading people's travels and minute accounts of churches, with their endless early histories—that is, of their princes and great men—nothing to me is so tiresome as, it may be, well expressed admiration, at the heels of descriptions indescribable, one's mind is left a confused chaos—the impression, if any there be at all distinct, is anything but *true*, after all. Surely, of all false things, History is the most false, when it assumes motives for its actors, and a high strain of admiration for the most heavily superfluous thing! Not even Mrs. Trollope's cleverness can make this sort of attention sufferable. I had rather some little injustice done on the Ohio, than those cloying sweets (all *couleur de rose*) on the Rhine, and among the good Germans. There is, surely, some more happy medium between it and the *nil admirari*. But let no tourist dare to lug you after him through a church or a picture-gallery; no, not even the Glyptothec nor the Pnothec. They must be skimmed with the lightness of a happy ignorance: much better it is to know how such a walking German looks, and does, yesterday, than Schiller caricatured in Danecher's bust, than

this tolerable sculptor himself lifted on stilts. Ah, me! this heaven-born inspiration of respectable mechanism right and left; such lofty attributes for the boiling of a potato, wears the spirits sadly. We go on, go on, till at last comes an empero., a palace, a mountain, and a thunder-storm not yet *done*. One's stock of forced enthusiasm is worn out. I'm sleepy, or I'm hungry—let's go to dinner.

Therefore (and for a better reason to myself), Bayeux shall be buried in history, and in its own rather flat, ugly country; for hereabouts, and over to beyond Caen, Normandy is not at all a pretty-looking country. Inclosures have ceased, the land lays in great masses with a dreary sameness, and not well wooded—more an arable than pasture country—plenty of wheat-fields, a monotony of grain.

11th. Drove into Caen at an uncomfortably early hour—too late to go to bed, too early to be up. Through an immense pair of folding-doors we were received into a great dépôt of *diligences*, where they took care instantly to shut us up, at the same moment with the Rhénne's *voiture*, which, I observed, was completely filled inside by a mother and large family of English children—poor little dears, all wide awake, chattering away to their nurses, and each other. The mother seemed dejected—well she might—without the smallest civility from any of the *bureau* autocrat democrats, who pay the same regard to poor helpless women that a hardened butcher's boy does to a flock of sheep penned up in a gateway or cellar.

Here they kept us for more than half an hour, until they got all their cargoes of fish and other lumbe, off the coaches: whether the passengers got their luggage, or were anxious to get away, was of no moment—the gates were closed on us. But they were very exact to call our names over, get their fare, or the difference, and make us sign “all right,” whether or no. At last we were let out on the town, to take our several ways. By mere chance, I was piloted to the *Hôtel d'Angleterre*, in the chief street, the *Rue St. Jean*. (Peter and John are the patron saints of Caen).

For twenty-three years has this hotel been patronised as the favourite of the English flocking to this town, and yet the only thing about it of the least smack of *English* is its name. Here is their Regent-street without a bit of foot-pavement! Why should they have one, if they don't like it? But there are four hundred English here (I believe I should say, *families*), and there have been as many as one thousand; who have spent thousands, and have been, and are, the very life and soul of the place; and yet no one would ever suspect it, from any outward, still less inward, impression made on them.

Is it that the English here have a quarter of their own, where they shut themselves up within their high walls? This West-end is the gentle rise in the suburb above the church of St. Peter's, on the Château side. This château is a picturesque old castle, or rather its outward walls and mounds, now forming the most elevated part of the town, but still entered by its old gates and approaches.

One might put down a word for the church of St. Peter's, a fine specimen of the Norman Gothic, like all those over the country built by ourselves, but that the fruits, flowers, and vegetables on the market-places under it brings down all towering flights of admiration. As I walked through among this profusion of a morning, I was glad to see some

of my pretty countrywomen scattered about making their purchases. We have all heard a great deal of Caen as a favourite residence of us English since the Peace, as a cheap place, and of good French society; the Préfet giving regular *soirées*, and bringing the two nations together. How this works now, I know not—twenty years is a fearful time to look back on! I have met many girls loud in their praises of all this—once the belles of the place, now serious mothers—come back home, or long since dead. It is almost like a sadness to concern oneself with what the order of the day is now. Strange faces succeed each other every four or five years, and so do Préfets, and the French themselves; and thus, to the most intimate resident, all must be changed—changed over and over again: one fancies, at any rate, all the gayest days have passed and gone. Certain it is, there are no longer half the number of English, and, except in private, the place is as dull as the “fat weed.”

I have been long wanting to have a laugh at some French *vaudeville*, but the theatre of each town, as I arrive, is closed for the season. I am sorry for it, for French country theatres are all good; if not so good as Paris, still they are good. The French, town or country, will not tolerate such miserable attempts as go down with us.

The only amusement going on is the *promenade* on the *Grand Cours*,—fine stately avenues, on the borders of the flat meadows beside the river, which skirts the town; not that there is a regular concourse in the evenings, or anybody but a few stragglers to be seen there—but there it is. Few of us hear of the Caen river (the Orne) till we arrive at the place itself; and yet is it not inconsiderable, bringing coastwise a good many small craft. About fifty are lying at the wharfs below the bridge, at the Place de la Caserne, at the end of St. John-street. There is, besides, a regular steamer to Honfleur and Havre twice or three times a week.

The river is small, about the size of our Avon, above the bridge, up to which the tide comes, leaving its banks very ugly in slime and mud; but the wharfs and quays recently rebuilt are ample and handsome. Building-timber seems the chief importation, beyond a coasting-trade. The present steam-boat, the *Calvados*, is a handsome boat, about the size of our smaller Gravesenders: they make the passage to Havre in three hours and a half during the summer. There are, besides, two or three *diligences* to Honfleur, from whence a passage ferry-steamer takes them across to Havre.

I have wisely vowed not to describe any one place or thing elaborately; but, out of vague imaginings as to how a place looks, and how it is situated, I may help others by saying, that this city is seated in a flat kind of valley; the green meadows above it are as level as a billiard-table for several miles; some few of the streets run up the side of a hill on the north side, where the Château or citadel is. The town is built of a soft stone, exactly of the nature of our Bath stone, and cut with saws in the same way. This stone is had from quarries close by: they send a good deal of it, too, to Havre, Rouen, and even as far as Paris. They have granite quarries of a very perfect species about fifteen miles off: the quays and the bridge are built of it.

Here, as in most other French towns, particularly Prefectures, there is a fresh spring of improvement of late years: repairing old houses, and building new; together with public works—such as bridges, barracks, and galls. Here they have just completed an entire new street,

running out of the St. John Street to the Grand Cours; together with some large, handsome houses in other parts of the town, and a splendid theatre. In the improving part of the town, towards the river, I observed one immense mercer's shop, just re-opened, as large, and they say, owing to their moderate prices, as much run on by the country people on market-days, as our great marts; spiral stair-cases lead to fine show-rooms up stairs—no doubt, for *les dames de la ville*.

Besides St. Peter's, where our William the Conqueror lies buried, Caen is full of beautiful specimens of the fine old Gothic architecture; the Choir of St. Sauveur, on the Rue St. Etienne, and the Abbé.

By taking a walk up the hill, beyond the Château, over the bare fields, to a conspicuous old neglected windmill, the features of the whole place are mastered at a glance. The country immediately around is bare and uninteresting, like that around Paris, except to the south-west, along the line of the river.

The town itself, though large, is soon known to an active walker from one end to the other; the streets of St. Jean and Etienne—at right angles with it, a handsome square, the Place Royale—contain all the best shops and bustle of the place. The French beat us all to nothing in their statues (there is a fine colossal one of Louis XIV. on the Place Royale). There is a massive dignity about them, whether equestrian or pedestrian, and an excellence in the outline of the figure as well as the drapery, that throws one absolutely into despair when one recollects such *things* as our Mr. Canning, Duke of York, and George the Third, stuck up as specimens of our improved taste in this way of the advance of the arts upon ourselves. Surely that concern in Cockspur Street prances the very climax of bad taste, ignorance of the art, and, lastly, most laughable presumption; for not only are Mr. Canning and the Duke of York gloried in by their makers, I believe (who always find a cabal in their favour!), but the bronze abortion of our revered King—in which his Majesty holds a copper cocked-hat on a pigmy horse, of stolen limbs, ill set together, and overbalanced by a tail—is the *beau idéal* of overstrained absurdity! I should say, has this artist ever seen the statue of Marcus Aurelius?—has he ever studied nature either at Windsor or in town?—or his art anywhere? What can it signify to say the King's face may be like, or that the mere horse's head is good, or his feet as a Greek pony's (cat-ham'd!)? Now, whose fault is all this? The fault of our most egregious Committees of Taste; who sit in judgment—the judgment of Midases—but one cannot say even so much for them; when they see the production, it is too late to judge—nothing is left for them but to accept, pay, wonder, and applaud; for, instead of having models from various sculptors of the statue required—instead of this—and selecting the best, there is simply an order given on the assumed excellence of the selected artist, at an enormous cost—and worse than good-for-nothing it turns out.* And thus, I am vexed to the soul to say, the provincial town of Caen, and almost any other in France, can look down from their pedestals with contempt on the first metropolis of the world—the most populous, the richest, but the last and the poorest in the grandest efforts of art—its public buildings and its public monuments. They certainly order these things better in France: so I thought as I walked round this fine colossal statue in the Place.

* Let us hope the Nelson Monument may be better ordered.

In addition to the four or five hundred idlers in this town, there are four hundred English lace-makers! It appears that, in the making, the lace often breaks, and our people understand the mending it best. Walking through the streets, these looms are frequently heard; and the lace-women of the town are constantly at their own doors at work on their drums or cushions, much in the way our Buckinghamshire girls do it. But their dress is not so becoming; they wear a man's cotton night-cap! which looks very disagreeable; nor can their good looks otherwise afford it, for they are very plain—not to say downright ugly.

For so cheap and plentiful a country, this is a very bad *table d'hôte*—at which the landlord presides on a perfect equality with his guests, and is, besides, a very sturdy, chattering politician of the *jeune France* school.

Nothing can be more insipid and tedious than these dinners: the few good things that appear are only brought to you at the wrong moment (if they come at all), and if you are not ready at the instant, good-bye to it; so that one must eat, per force, of what one does not like, to get any dinner at all, and in an inverse order.

Thus, execrable cabbage-soup, kept down by a bit of tasteless boiled beef, lean and dry as a chip. Then, in a long interval, fill up with radishes, and bread and butter! Another long pause; while the *padrone* cuts up and helps twenty people. If the dish is good, ten to one what comes to you may be despatched in just two mouthfuls. No vegetable of any sort. Another pause; or you may lay in a store of radishes and bread and butter. Then comes a most inconceivable mouthful of some fish (no great things), without sauce of any kind. Another significant pause. Then comes (after the helping of fifteen or twenty) a tiny bit of dry *roti*—it may be beef—but to call it roast-beef, I hold a profanation; gravy, impossible, or fat. This mouthful may be repeated if you use great diligence and are in luck. A good-looking dish of cutlets is getting cold all this while near you, but it looks like a breach of etiquette to touch any dish, meant to be first distributed by the hotel keeper. A couple of unhappy fowls next go the round: if you get a merry thought out of them, be thankful; still no gravy, and not a vegetable—there may be a salad. After this a dish of beans, when all meat has disappeared, and possibly a dish of potatoes, *à la maître d'hôtel*. Ah! well, in despair, one eats them in the French way, with bread—bread is the grand stuffing with everything; potatoes, pudding, tart, or custard;—still the cramming of bread goes on.

Now, I must say, as an Englishman, I cannot call this dining!—as a dinner, the thing is spoiled; it is eating, and if you eat of everything you may get enough to eat, no doubt; particularly if you make friends with one of the two waiters who hand the morsels round to twenty people. But, after all, it is a most unsatisfactory stuffing, against nature and your stars.

As to the sweets, if an insipid *gâteau de riz*, or a frothy *omelette soufflée* holds out, you may taste them, or a *pot de crème*—no great loss if you do not. Then appears, if in a provincial town, a pretty good dessert (though always the worst fruit in the market!)—and, as to wine, here in Normandy it is but so so—often very bad; and almost at London prices, if anything beyond the worst *ordinaire*.

With this order of things how many Englishmen are delighted!

calling it good living—living like a gentleman! Gentleman, quotha! I cannot understand it!—or how our nature can change so quickly by crossing the Channel! I call it execrable—detestable—both in the order, and in the thing itself. In the first place, what is called the *grande cuisine* in France is, after all, very *insipid*, compared with our dishes. They have a horror of pepper and spices. The base of all their sauces (put into all sorts of dishes) is burned butter, and flour and vinegar. They know nothing of roasted things, nor stuffings of any sort—as of our geese, ducks, veal, &c. (turkeys they do, with truffles or chestnuts).

Truly, in our sense, and to our taste, the French may be said to spoil good things in the cooking; and yet such is the force of fashion, that people of fortune in England think they want a French cook! and very many do spoil their dinners by this piece of fantastic affectation. Tyros in travelling, and in everything, must, too, needs be affected, and land French dishes. There is, to be sure, no arguing about taste in this way; but it is most wonderful, since we are the children of habit—of custom! Let the French like their plan best, that's as it should be,—but us!—Whenever I hear a man crying up French living (some very few dishes are common to both nations, and good), I half suspect his English nature is changed—French, he cannot be, English, he hardly deserves to be.

In a French private family much of the inconvenience of a *table d'hôte*, of course, is avoided—the waiting for so many people to be helped by one; and the paucity of good things, or any choice, &c. There were several Englishmen at this *table d'hôte*, some, like myself, birds of passage; some fixtures. Of this last set there was one fine old English gentleman sitting near the head of the table, who attracted some attention from the English part of us, as having once cut a conspicuous figure in the fashionable world, but who has been long living in France. So long, indeed, that there is perhaps hardly a friend of his youth in England now alive. As this gentleman is one of those characters who stand out from the herd, giving themselves to fame, he will, I hope, pardon my notice of him, particularly as his name is a kind of public property. Every body has at least heard of Mr. *****; though very likely half we have heard of him (except his good sayings) are ingenious inventions engrafted on his reputation.

I expected to have seen a little precise finical man, rather than the fine manly person he really is—I should think very near six feet, and well built; with fine features, and nothing remarkable in his dress or manner, except a quiet unassuming ease, which certainly distinguished him from some would-be very fine persons, who were at table, of the small school of consequential nobodies. He joined our conversation, too, and told us several anecdotes with a pleasant good nature that made me regret seeing so little of him. Besides, that I heartily sympathise with him at the very shabby treatment he has met with, which I was told in some sort obliges him to put up with the discomfort of this hotel—should it be his choice, why, it is so much the better; but no thanks to the ungenerous way he has been treated in —, which is said to be this:—Having been some years our consul here, with a vice-consul under him; where, indeed, there is little or nothing to do for either, he, unfortunately for himself, honestly wrote to the Foreign Office, to say

so, with the understanding that he might have something else, or be sent to some other more useful consulate. Not at all; they at once deprived him of his office, giving the duty to the vice-consul, a French shop-keeper, and left the consul to shift for himself. This is the current story at Caen; though, of course, it is impossible to know the exact truth. Certain it is, however, he is no longer consul, and is living, it is said, on a very slender income; though his numerous acquaintance among the English make his continued residence here more agreeable to him than elsewhere, I conclude.

Apart from all the *escapades* of his youth, and all the fun and frolic of wittier, if not wiser days than these we live in, one cannot look at such a man without a degree of interest, as one of the few notable last links that yet connect us with the merry times of his "*fat friend*," and with geniuses from whom each succeeding generation gives but faint and feeble copies of their sires. Our fun has degenerated into wrenching off people's knockers and painting houses red at midnight, without one redeeming spark of wit, humour, or invention—a sheer animal brutality—nothing to laugh at. In those days there was always some redeeming grace—some good joke, partly to excuse watchmen's broken heads. We still frequented coffee-houses—genius still astonished and delighted the world in prose and verse. Now we have hundreds, nay thousands, of dull gentlemanly dogs, who pore over newspapers in club-houses—all of the same formal cut—and scribblers of countless heavy tomes in muddy mediocrity! Character, eccentricity, frolic, are gone—our stalking gravities cannot even laugh at each other.

However, houses go on building—steam-boats, steam-engines, and railroads increase and multiply—and the world is very excellent, good, i'faith, to vegetate in, and to travel in.

This puts me in mind that I am still at table. I observed Mr. B.'s graceful management of a handsome snuff-box, the only thing I could fairly say was of the old school.

The French Government have a troop of cavalry here for the training of horses, this being one of the dépôts. There is besides, generally, a regiment stationed here, though not a garrison town.

From the flat low situation of the great body of the place, it is said to be damp. Now and then they are exposed to inundations of the river, without, however, ever doing any very great damage: one branch of it is brought through the town just behind St. Peter's church, and running into the main stream at right angles at the lower part of the quays—the vessels unloading and lying on both sides.

14th.—While sauntering down the river side this morning, I met a French gentleman, who I recollected having journeyed with just twenty years ago. It is curious, and somewhat painful to mark the progress of twenty years; which seem, to look back on them, like so many months. Sometimes one has hard work to persuade oneself they really have passed. Here was a memento! We greeted each other heartily; for we happened to have been very good friends, and shared a little adventure together at Dover. This was talked of, and once more laughed over. I found his memory better than mine—telling me minute particulars I had totally lost. He was then a middle-aged stout man; his head was now quite white, and though not feeble, yet was he fairly an old man. While I dwelt on this mirror, I have no doubt he was

equally struck with some change in me, of which I am not so sensible! No glass tells us that! blessed deception! each to himself immortal! We talked of this and that: he lived a little way out of the town. We parted with a common-place *bon jour*—for another twenty years—for ever! I could not help thinking that, little as I knew this man, had I met him as near my own home I should have invited him to it, if not at once to dinner. But the French think we English are at home everywhere; indeed so we are, much more so than they are with us, when they are helpless, *ennuyé*, and miserable enough; but they are not a hospitable people, in our sense of the word, though they are very social when they do happen to meet.

I have no doubt there is more dining, and drinking tea, and little dances by half, among the English families here than among all the rest of the French of the place put together. In French garrison towns the officers place their chief reliance on the English. They are very rarely invited by their own people, except the colonel and a major or two.

Here, as in every considerable town in France, as I have before mentioned, all travelling is scrupulously divided between the two great *messageries*, who, from being inveterate rivals, now divide profits, starting on alternate days. Their concerns are, or were, in shares, giving an interest of 30 per cent.; but, there are no longer any shares in the market, of course—happy are the holders! In the north there is one rival concern started, to bring down their fares (the *Compagnie Française*), but it is doubtful whether they can stand against such fearful odds.

15th.—Beautiful morning; bid good-bye to Caen, taking my place in the *coupe* for Avranches. Fifteen miles on towards Vire, we crossed a heath (a rare thing in France) near the château of Marshal Grouchy, from whence we could still see the spires of Caen. The roads excellent, through a limestone country. But I forgot to mention that we stopped for a whole hour to breakfast at a little *cabaret*, where the conductor, two sergeants, and myself, were regaled with an excellent breakfast, a much better one than ever appeared at the Hôtel d'Angleterre, and this too in a most mean-looking hut. Our stopping so unconscionably was entirely the *bon plaisir* of M. the conductor, who seemed to care very little for the impatience of those who sat in the coach. A party of ladies walked on till they were tired, and then sat down by the road-side till we came up. All this while these jolly fellows ate and laughed heartily, going over their campaigns together, for the host turned out to be an *ancien camarade*.

One of my two sergeants (a *fourrier*) was rather a rough-spun fellow, but the other, going to join his regiment at St Malo, I found a very superior young man of good family. He told me his chances of being made a sub-lieutenant were very slender. He had been on leave. The granting leave of absence to go home to the soldiers and subalterns is very general: their pay for the time is stopped. by this means the Government lightens the burthen a little of keeping so great an army on foot. They are sure of the return of the soldier, for the very best reason—it is his interest to do so—besides the disgrace and heavy punishment of desertion—and the little hope of escape in the end.

(To be continued)

ON PROMOTION BY PURCHASE.

MR. EDITOR.—Though I am heartily tired of replying to writers who are unwilling to reason, and determined not to read, the defence of the good cause still forces me to take up the pen. The opinion formerly entertained of the practice of selling military rank has undergone so happy a change since the subject was first brought forward in your Journal, about two years ago, that we must not allow the advantages already achieved to be lost, merely for want of a little continued exertion.

Fully as every person is entitled to arraign general, or professional views, brought openly to the bar of public opinion, the science of logic still prescribes certain indispensable rules for the guidance of all discussions that have truth for their object. These rules are so simple as to be evident to the most ordinary capacity, but are nevertheless so important, that no argument can possibly be brought to a satisfactory conclusion except by a strict adherence to their dictates. One of the clearest of these rules prescribes that no person shall, in the course of any discussion, bring forward arguments or propositions already replied to, without first showing that the replies were weak or insufficient; and but for this rule, which can never be deviated from with impunity, all controversies would degenerate into mere repetitions. In reply to the clearest demonstrations, we should only be shown, "how ductile dulness new meanders takes," and should end at last, like schoolboys, one party repeating, "I say it is," the other replying, "I say it is not."

Your former correspondent, "Britannicus," treated us to all the puerilities which it had been usual to advance in support of the system of purchase. When he saw them overthrown, he did not, indeed, attempt to defend them—the case was, perhaps, hopeless—but he repeated them, letter after letter, as if they had been new ware altogether; never noticing a single argument directed against them, and striving only to give "ductile dulness" some point by direct mis-statements, and by insinuations, which he thought, no doubt, admirably well calculated to excite a spirit of hostility against the writer of this letter. It was, upon a very, very small scale, a repetition of the good old *Auto-da-fé* style of argument,—“Away to the stake with the unbeliever, and the flames shall prove the force of our reasoning.” Unfortunately, however, poor little “Britannicus” was no grand Inquisitor; and so the matter ended.

Your present contributor, unable to bring forward new arguments in favour of the system which he advocates, again treats as to the exploded statements of his predecessor, and not only follows the example of that distinguished logician, in refusing to read whatever had been urged against his views, but copies him in other matters also, which shall be noticed presently. I must first, however, refer to the manner in which some previous controversies were conducted in your Journal, and must express my regret that the earlier tone should ever have been departed from.

When you formerly inserted in the Journal certain articles on Tactics, objections were made to some of the views I therein expressed by officers of high rank, talents, and experience; but, although they

differed in opinion from me, and maintained their cause with the ability and professional knowledge for which they are distinguished, they never went a single step out of their way to assail an adversary: they fought their battle stoutly and ably, but with fairness and courtesy, and if we did not convince each other,—as I know not how the case may have been with them,—we parted, at least, as good friends as we had met. The names of two of these writers became known to me—the one from some literary pursuits in which he was engaged, the other, from seeing the very article he had written against my tactical views mentioned, with praise, along with the author's name, in the "Hanoverian Military Journal." The circumstance, however, made not the least difference in the style of the subsequent papers. Tactics might, it seems, be assailed with impunity: infantry-squares, bayonets, jack-boots, cuirasses, bad muskets, Hussar-caps, chacos, and modern helmets were allowed to be fair game; but the moment the power of Mammon was attacked, then treason was the cry. Champion after champion rushed to the defence of the monster idol of modern adoration, and, setting logic and courtesy alike at defiance, strove to maintain their noble cause, by ascribing factious motives to an adversary, *not a single one of whose arguments they ventured, from first to last, to quote and to face.*

I shall now proceed to your new contributor, and if, in replying to him, I repeat my former words and arguments, you will please to recollect that I have a full right to do so, as they have not yet been answered, much less overthrown. I quote as usual, and, for clearness-sake, affix "Spectator's" name to the passages which belong to him:

"For God's sake, reader, take them not for mine."

Spec.—"Many, who themselves have experienced disappointment in their military career, must feel a deep personal interest in the arguments of Colonel Mitchell; while those, on the other hand, who consider that the purchase system is the best expedient, as yet desired, for maintaining the efficiency of the Army—by advancing young officers in the least invidious manner, and for supporting its high character by holding out prospects of promotion to that class of society in which most expense and care are usually bestowed on education—regret that this attempt should be made to disturb the minds of several who, having entered the Army with a full knowledge of its chances, and, contented to run the ordinary course before them, have hitherto been contented with their position in the Army, and credit and respectability which they derive from it."

I shall begin by the last passage of this long sentence, as it contains matter that helps to throw light on the rest of the article:—*Spec.*—"Regret that this attempt should be made to disturb the minds," &c. &c.

Vastly considerate, and as condescending as flattering to the non-purchasing officers of the Army! They must, it seems, be content to shine by the light which their happier comrades reflect upon them: it is too brilliant an idea to require a single remark. Besides, these poor, simple-minded men, never read Gazettes and Army-lists—for fear, no doubt, that their tranquil "minds should be disturbed"—and never knew before now that wealthy individuals were constantly passing in gay and glittering rapidity over their quiet and unconscious heads. "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise," and you, Mr. Editor, should have left them in their happy state of contented darkness. Now,

I am certainly not bound, after the manner in which he has treated me, to speak very favourably of "Spectator," as your new contributor signs himself, but can hardly suppose it possible that he really believes the non-purchasing officers of the Army to have been ignorant of their position in the Service till these articles on promotion were written. No one will give him credit for such ignorance. We are therefore reduced to the necessity of concluding that, like "Britannicus," he is laudably endeavouring to excite a little of hostility against the adversary he has himself called to the field, by representing him as a military agitator, desirous of "disturbing the minds," *risum teneatis*, of his non-purchasing comrades. These officers knew what would be their position in the Army, even before they entered it; they knew that an established rule of the Service allowed the wealthy to purchase over the unwealthy; they had, as officers, no right to complain of this rule as it affected themselves, and as such never did complain of it, for they subscribed to it, fully and fairly, when they accepted their first commission. But although they have no right to complain on their own account, the country, and every man who takes an interest in the honour of the country, has a right to complain of a system which, unattended by a shadow of benefit, must, from its very principle, prove injurious to the Service. Rest assured, Mr. Editor, that the minds of the non-purchasing officers have not been disturbed by reading these letters in your Journal; but unless they are very composed and sedate persons indeed, their gravity must have been often enough disturbed by seeing themselves represented as so poor a set, that they cannot even read a professional essay without danger to their nerves.

———"Open their veins with speed,
And bleed them copiously, good doctor, bleed;"

or who knows what may follow?

I must, for one, however, protest against this being looked upon as a question between the purchasing and non-purchasing officers of the Army. It is a national question, deeply affecting the efficiency of the troops, and all men of just and honourable feeling—let them belong to what caste, or order, they may—will decide upon it according to the strength of argument brought forward in support of the views advocated.

En passant, how happens it, Mr. Editor, that we have not in the English language a single known work on the art of war, on military science generally? Every other science produces daily its bales of books, good, bad, or indifferent—the science of war alone produces none. Is this owing to its having already attained perfection, or is it because no encouragement is given to professional knowledge and acquirements in an Army which may be called upon to contend against every description of enemy, from the disciplined European soldier, to the stealthy American rifleman, and fiery Marhatta horseman? Several officers of the scientific departments of the Army have written with ability on points connected with their immediate services—fortification, gunnery, &c. &c.; but no one has written a word on what may be termed the speculative part of the profession,—that is, on the relative strength and power of the different arms—their efficiency, singly or collectively,—and on the best mode of employing troops in the thousand different situations in which they may be placed. This is the most difficult part of the profession; and on all its various points knowledge must come to us by inspiration,—we have no light to guide us in

the inquiry. *Mais, vive la gloire, Monsieur Le Redacteur*, a single thrust of the bayonet is worth a thousand volumes—if we could only discover when and where the bayonet had ever been used as a weapon of war. *Revenons à nos moutons.*

We must now take the other passages in regular rotation:—*Spec.*—“While those, on the other hand, who consider that the purchase system is the best expedient, as yet desired, for maintaining the efficiency of the Army,” &c.

Who are those who now entertain an opinion, in support of which not one tenable reason could be advanced? The “Berlin Military Journal,” in speaking of these letters, says that the system of purchase has found only anonymous advocates, no one having yet ventured to affix his name to the defence of such a practice.

Spec.—“By advancing young officers in the least invidious manner,” &c.

The Service derives no benefit from the advancement of young officers, unless they be also meritorious officers, in which case they may as well be promoted without, as with purchase. As to the non-invidiousness of the system, I must just, it seems, repeat what I formerly stated on the subject.

All Staff appointments, from the chief command in India to the Adjutantcy of a recruiting district, are given by selection, which can only be considered invidious because we know that merit has little or no influence in the Army. Every step of promotion by purchase to the unattached, every removal from half-pay to full-pay, whether by paying the difference or otherwise, whether for the purpose of selling at full-pay price, or serving, is by selection. All the flank movements of the wealthy and the influential from full-pay to the unattached, and back again to a higher rank of full-pay, gives more opening to selection than any other mode of preferment. Besides, is it not invidious to give a wealthy person, totally destitute of merit, perhaps, promotion over the heads of all the unwealthy? Because a man possesses one great advantage, that of wealth, you add preferment to it, and place him over the heads of all who are already less fortunate, and then say that it is not invidious. To promote the unwealthy over the heads of the wealthy, merely on account of their poverty—silly as the practice would be—would, nevertheless, be a thousand times preferable to the present practice, and far less invidious, because it would tend to divide advantages, instead of heaping them all invidiously on one favoured class.

To assert that there is nothing invidious in promoting wealthy officers over the heads of their unwealthy comrades, seems the very quintessence of tuft-hunting.

Spec.—“And for supporting its high character by holding out prospects of promotion to that class of society in which most expense and care are usually bestowed on education,” &c.

The character of an Army must be supported by the high feeling, conduct, and acquirements of its officers, and not by their wealth; and the higher the character of the Army ranks upon these grounds, the more anxious will be the noblest men to share in the honours of the profession. Again, to repeat what I formerly said on this subject:—

“The belief also that the prospect of rapid promotion will alone bribe men of family to enter the Army, is an error resulting from ignorance of human character, and one that a mere glance at the

number of candidates seeking for admission into the Navy should have dispelled. The feeling which prompts men to seek for fame, and, above all, for military fame, has ever been so powerful in the human breast, that few young men of healthy and elastic feeling can easily resist its allurements. It is needless, therefore, to bribe any class of men into the Service, as we shall be sure to have all those worth having, even on our own terms; and we can easily dispense with those who are unwilling to purchase the honourable distinctions of the profession by an honourable share in the toils and privations of its subordinate stations. Horace already avows the existence of this aspiration for fame, when he says—

*Res gerere et captos ostendere civibus hostes,
Attingit solium Jovis, et Cælestia tentat.*

Lib. I. Epis. xvii.

“Juvenal, in the tenth Satire, admits the existence of the same feeling. I quote, from recollection, something like Gifford's translation:—

‘The spoils of war, the trunk in triumph placed,
And with the gleamings of the battle graced;
Crush'd helms and batter'd shields, and banners torn
From vanquish'd fleets, and beams in triumph borne;
And captives ranged around, in mournful state,
Are prized as blessings hardly known to fate!’

“Many young men also enter the Army under an idea of leading a life of pleasure or of gallantry: and some are, no doubt, allured by the prospect of idleness and the happiness of wearing a showy uniform. These last-mentioned sources of military ambition do not always furnish bad recruits; such feelings are natural enough at the age when men are candidates for commissions, and many a dashing young idler has turned out a good and efficient officer. The most useless officers are those who enter the Army without knowing why or wherefore, and merely because they have money or interest to push them forward; or because judicious friends,—estimating the facility of military duties by the way in which promotion is granted,—deem the hopeful youths fit for no other profession. Such men only follow the mass; accompany their regiments or brigades without knowing the object or meaning of a single movement, though partly executed, perhaps, by the very words of command they have mechanically repeated. They step over the heads of better men, by fortune, interest, or money; share in brevet promotions, given for success which they had no further share in bringing about, than in being useless spectators of actions in which they could not give a right direction to a single musket; and then astonish fashionable society by displaying the insignia of military rank, worn by individuals distinguished only for ignorance, folly, and vapid incapacity.”

As I copy from the collected papers, it is possible that the wording of the quotation may differ from what formerly appeared in your Journal.

Spec.—“*Monsieur le Marshal,*” said Louis XIV. to Marshal Villeroy, —after the defeat of Ramillies,—“*on n'est plus heureux à notre âge.*”

A civil speech is no established military maxim. A modern poet says that—“Voltaire was young at eighty-five, and Fontenelle at near a hundred;” and though this sort of youth might not, perhaps, hold good in military affairs, we must still recollect that Suvaroff and Blücher were the most active and enterprising commanders of their time when already turned of seventy. Youth in itself is no criterion of courage, energy, and activity; for we see plenty of men of whom it may be truly said that they were never young; who crawl, in dull or sensual lethargy,

from the cradle to the grave without ever evincing one spark of intellect, of generous fire, or noble feeling, and who are as destitute of energy as of activity. Such men may have both money and influence, and purchase on from Lieutenant to Lieutenant-Colonel, absolutely useless for every good or great purpose; keeping better men in the back-ground, and fit only to cast discredit on the road by which they had found their noxious way to rank and preferment.

With some men again the brighter qualities of youth become extinct at an early age, owing, perhaps, to personal infirmities or other physical causes; while from robust health, elastic feeling, and buoyant spirits, others retain all their energy to the last stages of life. Years are a very uncertain criterion of what we sometimes term age, though I do not mean to say,—as your next contributor on the subject of promotion will be sure to assert,—that Ensigns and Lieutenants should all, like Blucher and Suvaroff, be turned of seventy; but qualities must take the lead of mere youth as well as of mere wealth.

Besides, it is only the strange mode of reasoning for which the supporters of the system of purchase have been distinguished, that can make them assert that the purchasing system is necessary to bring forward young officers. At present the wealthy only can get on rapidly, because they purchase over the heads of the unwealthy, and block up all the avenues to preferment; but abolish purchase at once,—as honour commands that it should be abolished,—and you may promote the old and the young, the rich and the poor, exactly as you think proper. There is no purchase in the Navy, yet Nelson was an Admiral, and gained the battle of the Nile at five-and-forty, though totally destitute of family influence.

Spec.—"Again, what sort of result had the election of their officers by the Americans in their first revolt against England?"

Saratoga, York-Town, and the peace of 1783. In the last war the results were,—Sacket's-Harbour, Plattsburgh, and the unsettled boundary question. In all these actions the non-purchasing American officers beat the gentlemen of the purchasing system most completely. To show the full infamy of the system, it must be added, for the information of "Spectator," who himself asked the question, that the Americans only defeated the British commanders, for whenever it came to actual fighting, the British soldiers always defeated the American soldiers.

Spec.—"We have the Navy, the Marines, and the Artillery systems before us."

All proving that corps may be kept in a high and honourable state of discipline and efficiency without purchase. Your contributor seems rather unfortunate in his illustration.

Spec.—"All promotion in the Navy professes to be founded on merit."

The promotion in the Navy is understood to be badly administered, but the excellence of the principle has produced good results nevertheless. On this subject I beg to refer to an article on naval promotion, published in your Journal for December, 1836. "Spectator" should have read it before he attempted to answer me; for we really have a right to demand that those who honour our humble lucubrations with critical strictures should first, however heavy the task may be, read the articles which they deign to criticise.

Spec.—"But let us look to the practice. How comes it that in our Naval Service there are so many old-looking men in subordinate ranks, and so many young men over their heads?"

Do we never in the Army see old men of humble rank?

Spec.—"The service of the Marines is next to be considered."

The author proves very clearly that the system according to which the Marines are promoted is extremely faulty, and far from doing justice to the merits of the officers of that gallant corps, but however true all this is, a lecture on Chinese tulips would have been just as much to the purpose, for we have here nothing to do with the Marines, promotion goes progressively through the whole corps, and no very sane person ever proposed that promotion should go progressively and by seniority through the whole Army, from the 1st to the 99th Regiment.

Spec.—"We now come to a consideration of the Artillery promotion"

To which consideration I reply by quoting what I formerly wrote on the subject:—

"The slow promotion in the Artillery cannot be taken as a criterion of what promotion, without purchase, would be in the Line; because the Artillery is, in regard to numbers, a very limited service, which admits of neither change nor transfer, and into which officers enter after a long course of professional study, and with the general intention of making it their profession for life. Whereas officers are constantly retiring from the Line after a few years' service. Many young men enter the Army only for the purpose of agreeably passing away a few years; and in some circles the Service is now looked upon as nothing more than a good finishing school of manners. But if there is long study and no purchase in the Artillery, it must still be recollected that, in military estimation, this non-purchasing branch of the Service acted more perfectly up to its duties during the war than either of the other branches of the Service. The Cavalry, in which purchase prevails to a greater extent than in the Infantry, were, on the other hand, supposed to have been the least efficient of the three arms. I do not exactly lay this, even if true, to the charge of the Cavalry, for the very qualities most required in their service,—dash, daring, and confidence,—were the very qualities that our military system and the efforts of modern patriots tended most to repress."

Spec.—"In short, as long as the world continues in its present imperfect state, anything is preferable to promotion by supposed merit, for it is as uncertain and capricious as it is injurious to the independence and proper spirit of the officers subject to its baneful provisions. This is no theory, we have the practice of the Admiralty before us, to show the result of attempting promotion by merit."

The passage is best answered by three simple words THE BRITISH NAVY—and who ever heard of its officers wanting spirit?

I must here beg to repeat again what I formerly stated on this subject also. Reading should really precede criticism.

"The partiality with which promotion is granted in the Navy is no reason why purchase should be allowed in the Army. The Navy is always under the immediate control of a member of the Government, and is, therefore, more likely to be made a direct medium for obtaining parliamentary support than the Army has ever been made in our time. But, unfairly as naval promotion is said to be distributed, we must still bear in mind that the Navy had swept the seas before a British Army

ventured to show itself in the field. The Navy, like their comrades, experienced occasional disasters during the war, but it was only in fair and manly fight, against bold and superior adversaries. They never, like the British Army at Sacket's-Harbour, Plattsburgh, and Walcheren, fled from phantoms, hosts, and imaginary foes. The Navy often sustained heavy losses; but they never handed brave men defencelessly over to useless slaughter, as British soldiers were handed over to slaughter at Buenos Ayres and Rosetta. The Navy may probably have their weak points as well as their neighbours, but they have neither cuirassiers nor one-handed lancers;—they have neither bear-skin caps to make men hideous, nor bayonets to make them ridiculous.”

Spec.—“The administration of the Army by a Commander-in-Chief has, hitherto, happily prevented political influence from much intermeddling with the advancement of officers; but who would venture to hope that, if a system of promotion for merit, or, in plain English, by favour, were once introduced in the British Army, the Government of the day would not instantly throw the administration of the Army into the hands of a civilian Secretary-at-War, and convert the whole system of promotion into a fresh organ for the corrupt extension of patronage?”

What prevents the Ministry from seizing upon the whole of the military administration, I really do not know; but to suppose that they refrain from laying hands on the Horse-Guards merely because there is no patronage attached to the office, is an idea ludicrous beyond measure. The disposal of every command, at home and abroad, is nothing; as little is the power of bestowing regiments; the filling up of every vacancy, whether by purchase or otherwise; all promotions to the unattached rank, all flank movements from the unattached to full-pay, with or without the difference; all appointments to full-pay in order to sell at full-pay, instead of half-pay price; and the gift of the staff situations at home and abroad, are all absolutely nothing!!! Now recollect, Mr. Editor, that I think it right and indispensable to the maintenance of discipline, that the Horse-Guards should retain this absolute power: I am here only exposing the folly of the assertion, that there is no patronage attached to the office. The Admiralty injure a just system of promotion by the corrupt manner in which it is said to be administered. The military authorities redeem, in a great measure, the worthless system over which they preside by the fairness and ability displayed in its working. That the patronage of the Army is not so generally used for political purposes as the patronage of the Navy, is certain; but that it is so used at times, no one is likely to deny. It is rather aristocratic influence generally, than mere party influence, that prevails at the Horse-Guards.

Let us here illustrate, by well-known examples, the assertion so boldly put forward, that purchase checks patronage.

Those who are acquainted with the history of the Peninsular war, may recollect that early in 1810 Captain White, of the 13th Dragoons, not only overthrew a whole squadron of the enemy's chasseurs with his single troop, but killed or captured every man of them in real good cavalry style: the example alone was “worth a thousand men.” For this gallant action he requested permission to purchase a Majority of cavalry, as he was already a Captain of more than six years' standing; but though he had money and merit, he had no interest: he did not

obtain the step, and was killed two years afterwards, when on the Quartermaster-General's Staff, at the battle of Salamanca. A few years ago, however, at a time of profound peace, we saw a young nobleman, who had both money and interest, vault into a Lieutenant-Colonel's saddle after eight years of mere nominal service; we saw another gentleman become Lieutenant-Colonel before he was of age, and a third rise so rapidly as even to call forth some remarks on the subject in the House of Commons. Plenty of other instances, less striking perhaps, but equally to the purpose, might no doubt be added.

In almost every gazette we see old officers retiring from the Service by the sale of unattached commissions. Whether these commissions were purchased by money, the toils of a whole life, or by both together, matters not;—the unfriended half-pay officer obtains his half-pay price and no more. If, on the other hand, a nobleman or man of interest happens to be on half-pay, and wishes to sell,—then he is placed on full-pay, and receives the full-pay price. Two young noblemen, who had only a few years of home service on which to rest their claims to favour, were lately mentioned in the public papers, as having been placed on full-pay in this manner for the purpose of selling their commissions, to the detriment, of course, of all the half-pay officers who were anxious to serve. And yet in the face of these things, which are of constant occurrence, there are those who gravely assure us that purchase checks patronage: as well may you say that the sun's glorious beams cast darkness instead of light over the world.

“ Pernicious gold! though yet no temples rise,
No altars to thy name perfume the skies,
Yet is thy full divinity confess'd,
And thy shrine fix'd in every human breast.”

Spec.—“ If ever such a misfortune” (as promotion by merit) “ falls upon the Army, Colonel Mitchell will, indeed, have reason for his exclamation,—Is there any consideration known to Christians which can justify the promotion of any but men of the highest discoverable merit? He would find that, whatever may be the considerations known to Christians, politicians know a good many more powerful considerations than those, and would act upon them without much scruple.”

I must maintain my position nevertheless, Mr. Editor. Religion, honour, and patriotism, every consideration that can influence Christian men, demand, and demand imperatively, that those but officers of the highest discoverable merit shall be promoted in a profession which confers boundless power over the happiness and fortunes of our fellow-beings. God's own commandments must be buried in darkness and oblivion, before this evident principle can be disputed; for to suppose that we may disregard His high dictates, because there are worthless men in the world, would be an absolute outrage to common understanding. It was only, indeed, the defence of a system so hideous as the one which sells for gold, an iron control over the destinies of men, that could call forth an argument, the necessary tendency of which I fully, however, acquit your contributor of having observed.

Spec.—“ Before quitting this subject it may be permitted to observe upon the very fastidious views taken by Colonel Mitchell of the standard of military merit, and the value set upon it by the authorities. Knowledge of languages, of fortifications, of field movements, he seems to

"value very little; regimental duty he looks upon as an acquirement
"to be easily acquired in a week: his views of military merit are above
"such detail altogether."

What may be the object of all this? One of the very first papers I had the honour of addressing you contains the following words:—"In the present state of society and the art of war, no officer can do justice to the command of a regiment or company without being a man of cultivated mind and understanding:" and as I believe myself to have written in the same spirit ever since, I should really like to know when I "undervalued" the branches of knowledge here specified. That I think the field-movements easily acquired, is true; but I think them indispensable nevertheless: how can a man move a regiment or brigade without such knowledge? I think the letters of the alphabet easily acquired, for I see children of six and seven years of age read fluently enough, but deem them very indispensable nevertheless. I confess that in addressing myself to the officers of the Army I never thought of specifying the A B C as calling for particular study: I thought they knew these sort of things; but "Spectator" thinks differently, and the reader may decide between us.

Spec.—"The qualities most necessary to an officer, he" (Colonel Mitchell) "tells us, are presence of mind and quickness of observation; he must be an able judge of human nature, for the purpose of appreciating his subordinates; his disposition must be cheerful, in order to encourage them under hardships; and his exertions to alleviate their sufferings should bear proofs of kindness of feeling. Placed by his profession in the first ranks of society, he must not only possess the knowledge required by that profession, but the manners and acquirements belonging to the rank in which he is required to move."

And no bad picture either, Mr. Editor; besides, here is the very "professional knowledge" recommended which I was just before accused of undervaluing. "Spectator" continues:—

"Here is, no doubt, an admirable sketch of what a British officer ought to be, or rather what he ought to become; but, since none of this will come from inspiration, what are the means of reaching this high standard except a resolution of commencing diligently with those details which are treated so scornfully by Colonel Mitchell?"

I am happy to say that I have known many British officers who came up to the sketch here drawn, and may still, I hope, be allowed to count among my friends many who answer to the description. The professional clubs alone will fully bear out the assertion. As to the last sentence of the passage quoted,—let me ask, what are the details I have treated so scornfully? In a military point of view I look upon all pretensions, founded on the mere possession of wealth, with utter scorn and contempt; but have yet to learn what useful branch of professional knowledge I have undervalued.

Spec.—"What is so likely to give him presence of mind in the hour of action and difficulty as a thorough knowledge of the entire organization of the human engine under his orders, and the consequent consciousness of its powers, and how to make them of most avail? As for quickness of observation, which is most able to make use of his eyes in riding through a new country—the horseman who is so well practised in the management of his steed that none of his attention is necessary for its guidance—or the untaught equestrian, who is com-

"pelled to concentrate all his attention on the government of his horse, and, therefore, can scarce take his eyes off the animal's head before him to notice the surrounding objects? With respect to appreciation of the qualities of subordinates, where is there a better school for this art than the interior economy of the troop or company where, from the hour he first joins, the officer finds his account in studying the habits and characters of the non-commissioned officers and men? and how many an opportunity, even on home service, presents itself to the well-disposed officer, for showing the soldier that kindness and concern for his welfare which renders him so devoted a follower in the field of battle! Lastly, where is there a better academy for the habits and manners of gentlemen than the mess of a well-regulated body of British officers?"

So, here we have the secret. It was necessary to accuse me of "scorning" some "details" in order that your contributor might have an opportunity of treating us to this grand *morceau*, which, to gratify his pride of authorship, I copy out at length. Having done so, I must, however, ask one question,—what right has your contributor to direct this piece of heavy ordnance at me? I have never, indeed, gone the length of saying that drill would endow men with quickness of observation, or that the performance of orderly duty would give them fine feelings; but I have always spoken of the Army as a good school, well aware, however, that it had, like other schools, produced plenty of bad scholars. What right, then, has your correspondent to address me as if I had held a different language altogether? The whole passage would make the ordinary reader believe that I had written in opposition to the views which "Spectator" attempts to uphold, though he only injures them by such exaggeration. We have, as in all professions, seen too many callous, shallow, and incapable men in every rank of the Army, not to laugh at the idea of officers being rendered perfect by the aid of drill and orderly duty.

How far quickness of observation and kindness of feeling may, or may not, come by "*inspiration*," is a point on which I shall not pretend to decide; nor is it necessary, for every ordinary person possesses knowledge enough to guide him to a just decision on the present question. We all know that the mind and heart of man may be improved; the former may be strengthened and enlarged—the latter tempered to the best and kindest feelings: but there must, nevertheless, be a good foundation to work upon, come it by inspiration or how it will. We see plenty of men—and I am not speaking of confirmed idiots, but of men who move about and act a part in the world—who defy alike the best efforts of the drill-serjeant with his pacing-stick and the school-master with his primer, and remain dull, ignorant, and incapable, to the end of their days. It is the same with the qualities of the heart: we see plenty of men harsh, cold, cruel, and selfish, who have had the very best of civil and military training. On the other hand, we often find persons of great natural talents, and of the best and most generous feelings, who have enjoyed few or no advantages of education. Polish will add to the lustre of the diamond, but will never make the ordinary pebble shine: in the Army, however, pebbles and diamonds are valued alike—estimated by their gold setting, and not by their brilliancy: and "Spectator" should have known all this.

Spec.—"It is surprising that Col. Mitchell should attribute so much of

"the former success of the British arms to the 'gallantry of the mass.'
 "On many occasions during the services of the late Legion in Spain,
 "the daring gallantry shown by the soldiers equalled many of the
 "Peninsular Army's achievements. Yet, for want of competent leaders
 "to direct this gallantry of the mass, what did it avail?"

Why is it surprising? I never denied that a mass, or army, might be so badly led, organised, or supplied, as to render the highest degree of gallantry unavailing. On the other hand, a mass may be *sufficiently* well organised to overcome its adversaries by gallantry and good leading, and be yet very, very far removed from perfection. Is it right, Mr. Editor, that I should be constantly called upon to enter into explanations of this kind? The next passage is in a similar strain:—

Spec.—"If, as Col. Mitchell declares, gold and chance are the chief causes of promotion, it is strange to see how these blind guides have brought forward not only such distinguished leaders in the field, but such excellent colonial governors, and such efficient public men, as have been selected from the upper ranks of the Army; while, as regards regimental command, any candid person who will take the pains to peruse the evidence before the Military Flogging Committee will perceive that the commands of regiments are not in the hands of officers unfit for the arduous and perplexing task of maintaining discipline under every difficulty that civil interference and legislation can throw in their way."

Why is it strange, or what is there strange in the matter? Take, at random, a hundred or a thousand young men from the class or classes of British society from which officers are taken—or from which they come, rather—and you will be sure to have among the number a great proportion of bold, active, clever, resolute, and energetic men; but you will also have a proportion of vain, silly, ignorant, mischievous, selfish, and incapable men, who, if they have money, purchase over the best of those who have none; and in the Army a single blockhead may sometimes do more mischief, and cause more ruin and suffering, than twenty clever men may be able to remedy. There were plenty of able men in General Whitelock's Army, but one incapable rendered their efforts unavailing. There are plenty of able men in every corps in the Service, yet we have often seen regiments diminished in efficiency and rendered absolutely miserable by the conduct of an unfit commanding officer. The Duke of Wellington's dispatches furnish ample illustration of what is here written. Look at the long list of disasters specified in the first letter written on this subject (Nov. 1835. Page 296). There were plenty of able and intelligent officers in all the corps and regiments who experienced those defeats; but there were incapable persons also, along with these corps; and the incapable paralysed, by superior power and influence, all the bravery and energy of their inferiors.

If, therefore, gold and chance bring forward able men in the Army, as indeed they cannot fail to do, considering the class from which officers are taken, they also bring forward incapable men; though it should be the object of every just system of promotion to bring forward the able as much as possible, and to keep the incapables at a distance.

But this is at present out of the question, for merit can go for absolutely nothing, as long as it is in the power of wealthy incapacity to purchase over the heads of the bravest and the best of all who happen to be destitute of money. The price which the country and the Service

may have to pay for such appointments, the blood and the tears which these promotions may cost the oppressed, ill-used, and ill-commanded soldiers, are matters too trifling to deserve notice. The worship of Mammon demands the sacrifice, and at his mighty bidding all other considerations must, of course, give way.

I hope I may now, Mr. Editor, be allowed to take my final leave of this subject: as formerly stated, I consider myself indeed exonerated from replying to writers who set all the received rules of logic completely at defiance—who will not draw the most evident conclusion, nor comprehend the simplest inference—who never read the arguments they come forward to answer, and only deign to combat those which they have themselves manufactured and ascribed to their adversary. But though no one can be called upon to enter the lists with champions of this class, it would be wrong, nevertheless, to abandon altogether a good cause that has already made good progress; for men are so unwilling to think, that they receive with avidity any excuse, however feeble, which flatters, and allows them to fall back upon, long cherished errors or opinions: if pressed, I may, therefore, return to the subject. There is, besides, a sort of *espègle*, not to use the harsh terms of La Rochefoucault, which makes most men prefer reading even the dullest and most untenable accusations brought against an individual to taking the trouble of investigating the accuracy of the charges; so that self-defence may sometimes force the most unwilling to “stand for his right” with pen in hand.

I have no wish to reproach those of your correspondents of whom I have been speaking; they attempted, indeed, to ascribe something like factious motives to me—but I have advantages enough over them to let that pass. I shall therefore suppose that they are, like many other honourable persons, sincere believers in the excellence of the practice which they attempt to uphold; but I have no doubt that even a great proportion of those, who speak conscientiously in praise of the system of purchase, do so under the impression that they are acting a liberal part; and at the very time when an effort is necessary to repress the feelings of the heart which would contradict the assertions of the tongue; for, of the countless deceptions practised in this world, none are so numerous as those which we practise upon ourselves.

The worship of Mammon and the essence of tuft-hunting, which constitute together what the Liberals call the “spirit of the age,” are the real upholders of the system of purchase,—of that system which, indifferent to merit, sells to wealthy officers boundless sway over the fortunes, happiness, and, as the case may be, even over the lives of soldiers. This “spirit of power” is mighty in our day—it fights under a thousand false colours, is indifferent to the poisoned arms it employs; but holds a firm and iron grasp over the minds of its votaries. Whigs and Radicals, when acting under its influence, call their applause of the system of purchase “enlightened liberality;” Conservatives, following the same example, term their admiration, “respect for wealth, station, and the established institutions of the country;” while the efficiency of the Service, and the security of the Empire, are passed over as trifles, unworthy the attention of such enlightened characters. The “spirit of the age” applauds the disinterested generosity of its followers; and Satan himself notes, with a smile—“The pride that apes humility.”

I am, Mr. Editor, your obedient servant,

Edinburgh, March, 1838.

J. MITCHELL, Lieut.-Col.

THE DRUMSTICK CLUB ; OR, SKETCHES OF NAVAL LIFE.

No. XII.

ON my entering the club-room I found the members busy with their teeth upon the savoury repast that was spread before them ; and at the same time discussing with their tongues the advancements which had from time to time taken place in the Navy.

"It must be admitted," said the Admiral, "that there have been some curious promotions in the Service ; but one of the most curious was that of a Master and Commander, when I was serving as a Midshipman in a flag-ship. The Admiral, as brave a fellow as ever won a title, was, nevertheless, extremely poor, and, at the same time, highly improvident. It is true he had made a great deal of money ; but a contested election with a brother-officer, and his habitual recklessness in all financial affairs, made him the victim of those who prey upon the generous and liberal. His Secretary was a great scoundrel—selling appointments to young officers who could pay for them—and it was reported that his Lordship went snacks ; but this I will never believe. However, on the capture of some Spanish men-of-war, there were several vacancies, and Captain ———, of a small brig, had agreed to come down with a smart sum if his name was inserted for one of them. On the following day he came alongside, and descended to the Secretary's cabin, from which, however, he soon afterwards emerged, laughing most heartily, and followed by the Secretary, looking anything but pleased. 'Allow me to see the order again, Captain ———,' said he ; 'I think I have omitted the date.' 'Oh, no, no ! I beg your pardon,' replied the other ; 'there's no mistake whatever ; it is all perfectly right, for I examined it well ;' and away he went into his boat, and took command of a frigate. There was evidently the devil to pay somewhere ; and Captain ——— explained it soon afterwards—in fact, made a public boast of the manner in which he had weathered upon the Secretary, by holding the bill in his hand whilst he examined the commission ; and, finding it all correct, he very quietly restored the bill to his pocket, and, folding up the precious document that gave him post rank, wished the Secretary 'good day.' It was then said that 'the greatest knave had outwitted the greatest rogue in the fleet.'"

"I have heard that the Admiral used to thrash the Secretary occasionally," said Bobstay, laughing.

"And you have heard the truth," returned the Admiral. "I have seen him get many an unmerciful pummelling ; and his Lordship was a powerful and active man—he would think nothing of half-a-dozen such scoundrels as the rascally Secretary."

"Parliamentary influence had a great deal to do with promotion at one time," said Hawser ; "it was something in the nature of a Government contract."

"I think differently," returned the Admiral. "There can be no doubt that many were indebted for a lift to the votes of their friends ; but I am induced to believe that this was not carried to any very great extent. Latterly, merit met with its reward, especially if it had good interest to back it—though there were so many heterogeneous beings crowded into the Service that it would have been utterly impossible to

have provided for a tithe of them. Every mammy's darling, however great a baby, must be a Midshipman; and I am sure that most of you will accord with me that just previous to the Peace the class of young gentlemen had sadly deteriorated by the influx of an indiscriminate multitude of know-nothings that would have disgraced the quarter-deck of a ballast lighter. But come, Captain Longsplice, we have pretty well finished, and are anxiously longing for the continuation of your yarn. Clear the decks, Starnboard."

"Clear the decks it is, Sir," responded the steward, quickly removing dishes and plates, with the whole paraphernalia of et-ceteras, and then placing the wine—whilst Captain Longsplice, having arranged his memoranda, resumed his narrative of

POOR NED.

"My last left the young Midshipman at the Blue Posts on Portsmouth Point, on the first evening of his arrival, after inviting a party of reefers to dine with him on the following day. That night he slept soundly, and when he awoke the next morning it was with mind and body refreshed. Descending to the coffee-room, he found every box engaged, ay, literally crammed, with the junior officers of the Service, enjoying their 'tea for two and toast for six,' and he was compelled to wait some time before he could obtain a berth. He was highly amused at the assumptions of gentility which the youngsters manifested amidst a confusion and talking that defies description. Three or four waiters, male and female, were kept in a state of perpetual motion by the constant succession of visitors ordering breakfast. Had the standard of the excellence of these small officers been taken from the magnificent display in the coffee-room, they would have put the veterans of the fleet to the blush—and many talked about their commands with all the grandiloquence of an Admiral hoisting his flag in a first-rate, though they had been only sent in the temporary charge of a jolly-boat, with four boys, under a strict injunction from the First-Lieutenant not to leave her themselves, nor to suffer any one else to do so."

"At eleven o'clock Ned prepared to wait upon his future Captain, and it was not without some strange and rather troublesome feelings that he called to mind the various observations that he had heard made upon his ship and her Commander the Honourable Captain Fairystone. Off, however, he started with his benefactor's letter in his pocket; and having called at the skipper's lodgings, a miniature painter's on the Parade, he found that the Captain had gone on board, and thither Ned followed him.

"The ship was undergoing a refit previous to her departure for the Mediterranean, under Lord Hood, to attack Toulon, and everything was in the bustle of duty incidental to such an occasion: the decks were apparently in the utmost confusion, as the different gangs were employed about the rigging, whilst others were new-breeching the guns, and a craft was on the starboard side discharging stores, and another on the larboard side delivering provisions; the incessant 'twit, twit,' of the boatswains'-mates' pipes, and the unceasing movements of the men amongst casks and coils of rope, was a spectacle calculated to bewilder a more experienced mind than Ned's, and he stood for some time looking on, whilst a dull and heavy sensation crept over him as he feared it

would be utterly impossible for him ever to comprehend the complicated nature of the Service in which he had engaged.

" 'Hoot, hoot, young gentleman, and what for are you standing here?' inquired a Lieutenant, addressing the youth rather sharply. 'Tak the sma' cutter, and go to the gun-wharf, where ye'll find Maister Sponge, the gunner, and tell him the Cawptin wants to see him immediately.'

" Ned looked extremely silly; he knew nothing of cutters, or gun-wharfs, or gunners, and, therefore, respectfully bowing, he replied—' I have only just come aboard, Sir.'

" 'Hoot, hoot, and what does that matter?' responded the other, rather angrily; 'are you afraid of a little wark, mon? Ye ken ye must obey orders under the pennant.'

" 'And I would most cheerfully do so, Sir, did I know how,' answered Ned; 'but the fact is, Sir, I never was at sea before.'

" 'Never at sea before!' repeated the Lieutenant, somewhat contemptuously; 'then the fact is, Sir, ye've jist a greenhorn. Do you belong to this ship?' 'for the Lieutenant had only read his commission the day before, and, consequently, was unacquainted with the persons of the officers beyond his own messmates.

" 'I have now come to join, Sir; if you will be good enough to inform the Captain,' answered Ned, who was, of course, a stranger to etiquette.

" 'Ye're jist daft, young man,' said the Lieutenant, morosely; 'ye're like a bear jist caught; but ye'll be knowing better before long'—and with a churlish pride he walked away, leaving poor Ned not only in a state of great perplexity, but much depressed in spirits at the unmerited want of generous kindness he had experienced. An old quartermaster, however, had overheard the conversation—'You'll be wanting the Skipper, young gentleman, I'm thinking,' said he.

" Ned, who well understood the term 'Skipper,' from having so frequently heard Will use it in reference to Captain Nixon, replied in the affirmative, and was immediately directed to a tall man plainly habited in an undress uniform, who was standing before the wheel, having that moment emerged from the cabin. There was a look of quiet and mild benevolence on his countenance that at once gave the youth encouragement. Without hesitation he threaded his way amongst the heterogeneous mass with which the quarter-deck was encumbered, and, raising his hat, presented the letter of his patron. Captain Fairystone read it over, and, after a few words spoken in the most pleasant and affable manner, the quartermaster was directed to conduct him to the clerk, who promptly rated him as Midshipman on the ship's books; and as they were rather short of junior officers, the First-Lieutenant requested his immediate attention to duty. Now, Ned felt this to be extremely awkward, for he called to remembrance the invitations he had given to dine with him at four o'clock; but still he was desirous of complying with his superior's wish. No time, however, was afforded him for deliberation—the small cutter was waiting alongside, and he was ordered to proceed to the gun-wharf on the mission that was first proposed to him.

" Descending into the boat, the post of honour—that of steering—was, as a matter of course, assigned to the youth; but the tiller might just as well have been rigged out forward for a fore-tack buntkin for

any use that he knew of it, and the instructions of the strokesman—'port a little,' or 'starboard you may,'—were perfect heathen Greek; and the tar was compelled, though with great reluctance, to give up the terms 'starboard and port,' and to use the vulgar tongue 'right and left,' to the great amusement of the cutter's crew, who, finding that the young officer was wholly uninitiated, took advantage of it, to enjoy a little noisy humour at his expense.

"'Shove the thingemhe over a little to the left, Sir,' said the strokesman; 'there's a buoy right a-head, and we shall be running it down if you don't give her a sheer.'"

"'A boy in the water!' exclaimed Ned; 'poor fellow, what is he doing there? won't he be in danger of getting drowned?'"

"The men laughed heartily, and one of them replied, 'He's too fond o' suction to be drowned, Sir, and he's a big boy of his age too!'"

"Ned rose up and became aware of their meaning, and, after running foul of other boats and getting athwart a vessel or two, he at length contrived to reach the gun-wharf and deliver his message. Mr. Sponge, without a moment's delay, returned with him, and, taking the tiller, gave Ned an opportunity of observing its vast utility and simplicity when in skilful hands.

"The next duty he was engaged upon was to the dockyard, where he met and immediately recognised his friend of the previous evening, Mr. Sullivan, and to him he communicated his difficulty relative to the dinner. The Lieutenant laughed, and pointed out the necessity of his attending to his orders, but made no doubt that he would obtain leave at the time appointed; and if not, as the dinner was already ordered and would form the main attraction, they would, for they must, dispense with the presence of the donor of the feast, and amongst other good things accept of his apology.

"However, about three o'clock he obtained leave to go on shore, and, big with importance, he waited to receive his guests: he had ordered a handsome dinner for twelve; but four o'clock came, and only two little fellows, who were no use on board their ships, made their appearance; and, filled with mortification that entirely destroyed his pleasure, he was compelled to sit down three in company. The fact was, the young men had never considered the invitation anything more than an intended trick to make them ridiculous, and, therefore, thought of it no more; nor would the youngsters have been at the mahogany, but that they were stopping at the inn, and had ascertained that a grand 'tuck-out' was in preparation.

"The succeeding day he returned on board, and was introduced to his new messmates and the midshipmen's berth, and, instead of finding them mere burgoo-eaters, he joined as jovial a set as ever graced a line-of-battle ship's cockpit, and he soon discovered that the accounts which had been given him were fabrications, arising from the well-known tenacity of Scotchmen to stick like burrs to the skirts of their more successful countrymen. Captain Fairystone was one of the bravest and most honourable-minded officers in the service;—to be sure, it must be admitted that he had plenty of followers, for he was the son of a Scotch Peer, and, being high on the list of post-captains, there was every chance of his speedily obtaining his flag—inducements quite sufficient for uncles and aunts and cousins, by the score, honouring him with the opportunity of patronising their boobies.

"Notwithstanding the officers and men were almost strangers to each other, yet so heartily did every one set to at the work, under the exciting expectation of meeting with the French fleet in the Mediterranean, that in a fortnight, from a clean-swept hold, and without a spar aloft, the ship was docked, masted, rigged, victualled, and under way down Channel, with the squadron commanded by Lord Hood in the Victory.

"At first Ned felt the effects of sea-sickness, but this did not continue long; the weather was tolerably favourable, and they arrived on that pleasant station, the Mediterranean, at a delightful season of the year. The occupying of Toulon and the subsequent events are matters of history. I shall, therefore, merely state that Captain Fairystone was appointed to command the troops that landed under his direction at Fort la Malgue, of which place he was made governor, and Ned was for several months employed on shore, where he shared in most of the severe engagements that took place, and, ultimately, when compelled to abandon it, he had charge of one of the boats that was employed in bringing away the wretched inhabitants who flew from the dreaded vengeance of their infuriated countrymen; and England, in her penny-wise and pound-foolish policy, lost an admirable chance of retaining possession of this powerful fortress and arsenal; and, though the gallant Sir Sidney Smith and his brave associates exerted themselves in the work of destroying the enemy's ships, yet it was but partially accomplished, and many of them afterwards met the English on the seas to be defeated and carried into a British port.

It is certainly very true that Spanish treachery operated strongly in favour of the republican party; for, like the Prussians in the north, they called themselves the allies of England at the very time they were negotiating with the French Directory. The blowing-up of the powder-ships during the embarkation of the British, as well as leaving the ships they had engaged to destroy utterly scatheless, and many other base and dishonourable acts, fully evidence the fact; indeed, Robespierre, in his Political Testament, fully exposes their rascally conduct, which appears to have stuck by their nature down to this very hour; for though, when Lord Wellington was in Spain, there were found some amongst them who behaved well, yet it is a notorious truth that there was but little bravery, and less honour, to be found amongst the grand mass of the nation, and the troops were frequently compelled to desperation, not courage, by the conviction that any manifestation of cowardice would turn friends into implacable enemies.

"But to proceed. Whilst yet the conflagration was going on, and the flames were creating a second daylight, awful in its appearance, on account of the blood-red hue that tinged the whole spectacle, the Republicans in the town commenced an indiscriminate slaughter amongst those Royalists who had acted friendly towards the British. At the various landing-places, and from the quays, the wounded and disfigured with gore rushed towards everything that could float, preferring even a plank or a piece of wreck on the water to the remorseless and merciless cruelty of the monsters who assailed them. The horrible scene was fearfully vivid in the lurid glare of the burning piles; and in some instances the despairing creatures, in their efforts at self-preservation, seemed to disregard, and even reject, those first great principles of social affection which the God of Nature has himself implanted in the

human heart for the wisest and best of purposes, and to bind the ties of kindred together.

"But such cases were rare, and principally caused by the extreme of terror acting upon weak minds; for there were fathers thrusting forward their wives and children towards the boats, whilst they opposed their own bodies as a barrier against the knife of the assassin. Beautiful females, nearly divested of apparel, were defended from the brutal grasp of ravishers by mothers, who fought like tigers for their offspring; and there were young men who, maddened by exigency, resisted, with Herculean strength, the attacks that murderous vengeance made upon their aged parents, till, covered with wounds, they fell to rise no more.

"Ned had witnessed several sanguinary contests, when hearts beat high for victory, and the horrors of carnage were lost in the enthusiastic excitement of the *mêlée*, but the scene before him, heightened in all its tragic effect by the ruddy and unnatural glare of the fire, was very different to the battle-ground where men engaged in warfare. Here was trembling age in its decrepitude, and helpless infancy in its weakness—females shrieking for that security from defilement which death alone could give—and the musketry sent forth its fiery destruction, and reeking blades and overgorged bayonets flashed in the fierce blaze, whilst every now and then some sudden explosion threw up the burning fragments of wreck into the air, crashing, and crushing wherever they fell. Then came the booming of the heavy artillery, joined with the shouts of the impetuous soldiery, and the still wilder cries of the convicts in the galleys.

"Some of the Neapolitan troops had, from some cause or other, delayed their embarkation at the appointed place, and now, pressed by the advance of the French, rushed upon the rear of the poor wretches on the landing-stairs, forcing hundreds into the water; and the fearfulness of the scene was increased by a sacrifice of life where the victims vainly struggled with the enemy that overwhelmed them. Numbers were picked up as they clung to the boats, and those on shore, seeing there was a chance of escape through this means, precipitated themselves into the sea, and sunk at once into their watery grave, whilst the seamen, unable to take in any more, were compelled to beat off the applicants, who clutched the boat's gunwales, imploring to be saved.

"Ned's command was the barge of the French first-rate *Le Commerce de Marseilles*, and she was close in to the landing-place, every part of her crowded with fugitives, who however still kept pressing on him, and, capacious as the boat was, there was every danger of her being swamped, when he ordered the men to haul out from their perilous situation, intending to put his freight on board the first ship he came to, and then return for another cargo. The crew promptly obeyed; the boat was moving slowly away, when a young female, with a child in her arms, followed by a fellow having a tri-coloured cockade on his breast, and brandishing a sword, appeared upon the quay, and shriekingly implored Ned to receive her. Gladly would the youth have done so, for her dress indicated that she moved in elevated society, but to put back again would have been the very height of madness, and must have involved the destruction of all. The man clutched the female by the throat, and caught at the child; she tore herself away, and with almost superhuman energy she flung the infant from her arms towards the coxswain of the barge, who, with the quickness of thought, received it safe,

just as the sword of the villain passed through her young heart, and a ball from Ned's pistol shattered his skull; they plunged into the water together—the murdered and the murderer—and their history, whatever it was, perished with them.

“The ocean seemed alive with boats passing to and fro on errands of mercy, and the gallant Sir Sidney Smith remained as long as possible affording succour to all to whom it was practicable to extend it. Ned got alongside one of the prizes, *L'Arethuse* (afterwards taken into the British service and named the *Undaunted*—she was subsequently lost on the *Morant Keys* in the *West Indies*), and the officer in command, being in want of hands, detained the barge's crew, composed partly of English and partly of Maltese seamen.

“Awfully grand was the conflagration when beheld at a short distance; there was scarcely any wind, and the nature of the burning materials was such as to cause but little smoke; huge pyramids of fire ascended to the heavens, and lighted up the hills, from whence the enemy kept up an incessant discharge of grape and musketry upon the retreating force, in which they were joined by the batteries of *Balaqué* and *Aguillette*.

“Thus early was Ned initiated in the fighting part of his profession; and from the approbation bestowed upon his firmness and courage by Captain Fairystone, and others, it may naturally be supposed that he performed his duty with diligence and attention. He returned to England in *L'Arethuse*; and being thrown, whilst on board her, in a great measure upon his own resources, he gained more information in a few weeks than it would have taken many months to have acquired under less pressing circumstances.

“Captain Fairystone received the warmest eulogiums from the naval Commander-in-Chief, as well as from General Dundas, and shortly afterwards was raised the first step in flag promotion as Rear-Admiral of the *Blue*, and in three months afterwards he hoisted white at the mizen in the gallant old *Barfleur*, in which ship Ned again joined him, and was very kindly received.”

“During the youth's absence, however, a circumstance occurred which, though it threw but little more light upon his history, was nevertheless a connecting link in the chain of evidence. It appears that *Waxwell*, the housekeeper; and the woman known as old *Nan*, accidentally met at Captain *Nixon's*, and *Nan* immediately recognised in the person of *Waxwell* the very individual with whom she had lived as servant at the time of her carrying off the child; and the following narrative was gleaned from both.

“*Waxwell* was no less a personage than the youngest daughter of the youngest brother of Mrs. *Nixon's* father, and consequently cousin to Mrs. *Nixon* herself. Both her parents were dissolute, and lived in one eternal round of dissipation. They squandered away their income, ran deeply into debt, scattered their family upon the world—the females contracting marriages with low adventurers, who hoped by exalted connexions to advance their desperate fortunes—the sons, pursuing the same career as their parents, yet unable for want of means to aim so high in association, became contented with the society of gamblers and sharpers, and sank deeper and deeper in degradation. Susan, as has been already stated, formed an attachment to the butler (a good-looking but designing man) and ran away with him:—they were married; but their

future fate was sealed; discarded by every relative—shut out from all hope of reconciliation with the authors of her being—reduced to absolute want, they were compelled to accept manual labour to eke out existence. The aristocratic world looked upon this union of disparity as a crime of extravagant magnitude—mothers pointed the attention of their daughters to the destitute and almost starving condition of Susan Waxwell as a beacon to warn them from similar misconduct, and no one would employ the ex-butler—nay, they purposely sacrificed him, to deter others in his situation from aspiring to the honour of an alliance with their families. For some time after their marriage, notwithstanding the distress they had to encounter, they lived happily with each other; but Robert, who had married from mere mercenary motives, finding his schemes had recoiled upon himself, and there was not the least prospect of their being noticed by his aristocratic relatives, vented his disappointment on his wife, who bore his ill treatment with patient resignation. At length he left her, and joined himself to a desperate gang of plunderers; and though at times he found means to transmit her certain sums of money, to aid in her support, he never came himself. The affection that had prompted her to unite herself with one so much her inferior in station still remained in all its power, and she mourned in secret the loss of all those enjoyments which girlhood had fondly and fervidly pictured to her imagination—she had taken a false step; there was no retrieving it, and all the rest of life was ‘bound in shallows and in misery.’

“For several years Mrs. Waxwell lost sight of her husband altogether, and she would have believed him dead, but for the secret whisperings of her heart that he was yet in existence. By dint of hard industry she had been enabled to save a little money, and removing into a respectable neighbourhood where she was not likely to be known, she changed her name, took a small but genteel house, and commenced a school. Her assiduous attention to her pupils increased their number, and she once more tasted of the sweets of prosperity; but with her elevation came also the old feelings of pride and the hankering after fashionable life. The house she occupied, though not large, had more rooms than she required, and therefore the first-floor was let as furnished lodgings at one guinea per week. Various persons occupied them in turn, till at length they were taken by a youthful couple, neither of them having attained their twentieth year; for whilst the man was under that age, the female could not have seen many revolutions of the moon since her seventeenth birth-day. The gentleman was a tall, handsome young man, with a sallow tinge upon his countenance that bespoke a foreign origin, and his habits showed evident proofs of his acquaintance with that species of domination which the planter exercises over the negro in the West. Still he was all gentleness and kindness to his wife (for such he had pronounced her to be); no expense was spared in procuring her every luxury which her situation (for she was near her confinement) required; and though he was frequently absent for days together, and there was a certain mystery about his proceedings, yet his affection for his wife was beyond the admission of a doubt. The young lady was beautiful, her manners fascinating, and she seemed to think of and look upon her husband with all that devotion of heart which springs from profound respect and ardent attachment;—she loved him as those love who inhabit her own sunny clime in Italy—she clung to him as if she had no other support

in life on which to stay her existence—she bound his tenderness round her heart to nurture and cherish all its dearest, fondest wishes—it was not the partiality of a moment, but that deep strong deathless passion which no change of circumstances could destroy. A female servant waited upon the lady, but the gentleman was at all times unattended.

“Never had Mrs. Waxwell beheld during her life such sweet testimonies of regard in the married state. She longed to solve the mystery, if there was any, in which they appeared to be enveloped, but it was far beyond her comprehension and finding out. She was well paid, and impertinent meddling might lose her two excellent lodgers. The lady in due time was delivered of a boy; and the father, as he bent over it with his large full eyes overflowing with tears, kissed the mother, and implored a blessing on the babe. Business of importance imperatively called him away for a few hours—he left them never to return again.

“The day passed away, but he came not—another succeeded, but the sunlight of his smile did not beam upon them. A third followed, and about noon a man of dark and lowering visage entered the apartment of the weeping mourner. No one saw him till he stood within the room, and the first appraisal of his presence was a piercing shriek from the lady herself, who gazed at the apparition, and then, covering her face with her hands, sunk back upon her pillow. The stranger was arrayed in deep black, but evidently of foreign make, and over all he wore a rich cloak of the same coloured velvet, under which, at the opening of the breast, appeared suspended a massive gold and jewelled order of knighthood, whilst the star of nobility just peeped from the dark cloud above it. He approached the bed and sternly frowned upon the mother and the child. Neither of them moved, or heeded that lowering scowl of fierce disdain—the infant was sweetly sleeping—the mother was a corpse.

“Oh, who can describe the agony of that dark proud man when he found that life was extinct? He raised the inanimate body in his arms, pressed his lips to the yet warm clay, then flung her from him with disdain, and wrung his hands together, as if trying to crush emotion. Again he raised the dead one, looked mildly on her pale face, parted the clustering locks of raven hue that mantled on her pallid forehead, muttered in unknown language what appeared to be a mingling of prayers and curses, passed the arms of the corpse round his neck, and entwined his own arms round her’s. Groans, that seemed to rend the very breast, burst forth; then, suddenly dashing the lifeless frame upon the bed, he started on his feet, and rushed from the house.

“The servant who had witnessed this transaction had been too terrified to move or call for assistance, and when her presence of mind returned the stranger was nowhere to be seen. On the evening of that very day, however, Robert Waxwell returned to his wife, apparently an altered man. He heard no reproaches from her lips—an affectionate welcome greeted him; and hope revived in her mind that there was yet happiness in store for both. The hope was delusive—before the morning sun had shed its earliest ray upon the tops of the mountains the fellow had decamped, and every valuable article in the house was carried off, even to the trifle of money that had been saved by the servants.

“This was indeed a severe blow; it brought on sickness, it caused

despair, and the unfortunate woman sunk under it to imbecility and helplessness. The whole of the jewellery, and every article of value which had belonged to her lodger had been conveyed away by the villain, so that Mrs. Waxwell was compelled to bear the expenses of the lady's funeral. The care of the infant was her next thought; but he was soon spared all trouble on its account, for, on the day of burial the female servant disappeared, taking the child with her.

"The next intelligence which Mrs. Waxwell had of her husband was many months after this event, and she had just risen from the couch of poverty and pain—for sickness and incapacity had deprived her of her livelihood, whilst the act of the robber had taken from her the money that was necessary to discharge her bills and pay her rent. She was compelled to give up her house, the furniture was seized by the creditors and sold, and a wretched apartment in a miserable dwelling became her abode. Cheerless, and almost broken-hearted, she was sitting on the frame of her crazy pallet when a man of rough exterior but gentle address entered the room, and inquired if her name was Waxwell. She still went under the name she had assumed, but on ascertaining that the stranger had something of importance to communicate touching the welfare of one whom she still loved, she readily acknowledged who she was, and requested information relative to the purport of his visit.

" 'Why the long and the short on it is,' replied the man, in a voice of mildness, that strongly contrasted with his appearance, 'he's a pall o' mine; but I shouldn't say as much to any body but slippery Bob's wife, seeing as there's fifty flimsies offered for my precious carcase, though they little thinks that gentle Billy—that's the name I goes by—shoved his nose into the stone jug to sarve his friend.'

" 'Surely—surely my husband is not dead?' exclaimed the enfeebled and emaciated woman.

" 'Not yet, Ma'am,' returned the man, with a knowing simper, 'though he's mightily conveniently sitivated for that same; but he won't get scragg'd this time. There'll be oonly a pleasant water party.'

" 'For the love of heaven do not tantalise me,' urged the almost famished Mrs. Waxwell. 'I know nothing of your allusions: let me intreat you to tell me where my husband is?'

" 'I thought you know'd all about it,' returned the man, whose vulgar accents could not destroy the effect produced by his musical voice. 'Didn't Nance Baxter tell you?'

" 'I am not acquainted with any Nance Baxter; nor do I remember a soul of that name,' replied she, proudly. 'My husband left me several months ago, and I have heard nothing of him since.'

" 'What, he tipp'd you the double, my precious!' said the man; 'then the more willain he, for desarting such a sweet woman;' and the fellow approached familiarly, and sitting down beside her, passed his arm round her waist.

" Susan's heart was ready to break. She had scarcely tasted food for two days, but still all her lofty aspirings clung round her heart. She felt disgusted at the man's conduct, but was unable to rally sufficient strength to thrust him from her. 'Oh, God,' she exclaimed, 'is not the measure of my punishment yet full? I am desolate, heart-broken, and starving; but this last degradation is more bitter than all the rest.'

" 'Now, God Amighty forgie me,' said the man, rising up, and

looking earnestly at his companion. 'Vell! vell! I see you are out in your calculations, Gentle Billy, and newer shall it be tould that I insulted a wartuous woman in distress. Starving did you say? Here, my precious, send for some grub;' and he threw a handful of silver into her lap.

" 'I would not touch it for worlds. No, not to save me from a lingering death,' exclaimed Susan, shuddering. 'It is perhaps stained with blood;' and she shook it on the floor.

" 'As you please, my precious,' acquiesced the man, picking up the money; 'but it has been honestly come by for all that, seeing as I got it for a watch that we found the other night.'

" 'But what of my husband—of Robert?' inquired she, in a state of strong excitement. 'I supposed you were come from him. Where—where is he?'

" 'Double-ironed in Newgate,' returned Gentle Billy, 'and sentenced to be transported for life.'

" Susan clasped her hands—she gasped for breath—every thing swam round her; and with a deep groan she sunk senseless on the floor. Look at the picture, ye sons and daughters of frivolity, and what will ye do? Be warnad? No! You will still pursue the mazes of what you misname pleasure! You will still indulge the dictates of self-will! You will still drink of the poisoned waters, though reality in a thousand horrid shapes should intervene to check your mad career! You will do, as 'Gentle Billy' did, try to pump up a tear, and wonder what it all could mean.

" The robber, however, did not want for humanity. He called for the woman of the house, and went himself to fetch the only restorative he knew of—a pint of brandy. He gave the mistress money to purchase victuals, and took his departure, promising to call again in the evening to inquire if she was better.

" A small portion of the spirits moistened Susan's lips. A much larger quantity went down the throat of the woman of the house, who probably thought that her lodger might be revived by sympathy. But she did revive—food was placed before her—she both ate and drank; and finding herself somewhat recovered in strength, she quitted the comfortless hovel; and the grand-daughter of an Earl—the late respectable schoolmistress—almost barefooted and bareheaded, inquired the way to Newgate.

" It would be a tedious and a disgusting task to repeat all the attempts at low wit which were called forth by the question. Some told her to 'pick-pockets'—others, to 'star the glaze'—one advised, 'running away with a silversmith's shop'—another, to 'rob a church.' But the poor woman still continued asking, with the same success, till she added the word 'street' to Newgate, and was directed on her way.

" It was at the close of a dark dreary afternoon, at the latter end of November, that this once proud daughter of affluence, poorly clad and shivering with the cold, passed through the crowded streets, and reached Cheapside. There the busy throng were hurrying along, and who could read their hearts? I have often thought, whilst standing at the corner of St. Paul's Churchyard, and looking in the many faces that have passed within the compass of a few minutes, what various passions, feelings, energies, and sentiments they expressed; and yet in all, particularly at the gloomy season of the year, there was a look of anxious

solicitude and care. Oh! who could tell the mass of human misery contained within those breasts?

"Susan moved on: the dim lamps, just lighted, shone feebly through the foggy atmosphere and drizzling rain—the shops, with their glimmering candles, scarcely threw the illuminated rays across the footway. At the corner of Bow Churchyard she beheld a pale and sickly-looking female, with an infant in each arm, and she was imploring charity. Yet none of that busy crowd addressed a word of Christian consolation, or extended the hand of benevolence to relieve. The babies cried—the mother tried to soothe them, and Susan, heart-sick and sorrowful, was swept onward by the stream. Did she feel for that perishing mother? No! Amidst all her calamities, pride had steeled her heart against the wretchedness of her fellow-creatures. She looked with contempt upon the beggar, for she herself had never known the pangs of childbirth. She could not enter into the feelings of a destitute mother.

"At length she reached the dark and frowning mass of blackened stone that aspires to the title of 'His Majesty's Gaol of Newgate.' The lamps threw a sort of dubious gloom upon the spectacle, for midway between them was utter darkness. There were but few moving on the pavement before that characteristic building, and Susan was there for the first time in her life. Who was she to address, and how gain admittance, were questions that she never thought of till that moment; and yet her husband, the man to whom she had sworn allegiance, was fettered within those massive walls, a felon, a convicted felon, about to suffer the penalty of his crime. She tried the doors, but they were all fast. She was about to knock at the Governor's, when a soft harmonious voice whispered in her ear,—'No manner of use in life, Ma'am; it's arter hours;' and, turning round, she saw 'Gentle Billy' close at her elbow.

"There are seasons when the heart is so sad, and the spirit is so utterly depressed, that even the society of those we most despise becomes acceptable, to save us from ourselves; and so it was with Susan. This man had disgusted her—he had owned himself to be a professed thief—he had offered to take a freedom which no one before had attempted—she feared and loathed him, yet now a thrill of joy passed through her heart when she recognised her companion of the afternoon. 'Oh, how glad I am to see you!' was the first spontaneous exclamation, and it was strictly true; she was rejoiced to behold one who could solve her difficulties.

"'I thought I could track your course, my precious,' said the man; 'but come, come away—you'll catch cowl near these hard-hearted stones. You cannot see him to-night.'

"'But are you not alarmed for yourself?' inquired Susan, with a stronger expression of disquietude than she really felt. 'You cannot be safe here.'

"'Hush! hush! not so loud, if you please,' replied her companion. 'You know the ould saying, that 'walls have ears,' and I'm d—d but there's plenty of ear-rings about,' pointing to the chains above the door, 'and the ears are not far off; but,' and he whispered, 'chaps of our kidney are more securer here than in many other places, 'cause they'd hardly come to saarch for us in sight of iron bars and handcuffs; yet, atwixt you and me, there's more business in our way planned in

this here neighbourhood than anywhere else in town. In fact, all the genteel line is done at no great distance from this spot.'

"Susan listened, but it was with impatience, though she did not show it outwardly. 'And when,' inquired she, 'shall I be allowed the painful privilege of seeing my husband?'

"'To-morrow morning, if you've luck,' returned the man. 'You must be at the gate by six o'clock, and then you'll see him toddle off in the wan.'

"'I do not understand you,' said she; 'pray be more explicit in what you say.'

"'As for being 'splicit,' returned Gentle Billy, 'I scorn it; but I tell you plainly, Ma'am—and, after what you have said, I wouldn't open my mouth onely for the love of Bob—that to-morrow morning the Governor will take 'em out a hairing, and a long excarsion they'll have on it afore they gets back.'

"'Do I understand right?' inquired she, kindly and anxiously. 'Does Robert, Robert Waxwell, quit this place to-morrow?'

"'As true as gospel,' replied Billy; 'he goes to the hulks in the morning, and off to Portsmouth directly, where his Majesty has provided a ship to carry him out to cultivate more flowers than you'll find in Common Garden. He's going to study botany, Ma'am.'

"'Oh, God!' groaned Susan, as she staggered, from the blow, and would have fallen but for the support of her companion, 'this—this is indeed heavy. I will remain here, then,' added she, 'for the night, and then I shall be certain not to miss a last farewell!'

"'Here! stop here! and such a night as this 'll be!' exclaimed the man, in astonishment; 'then I'm d—d if you do. I honours your dewotion, and it never shall be said that Gentle Billy wanted humanity or gallantry. Come, come, my precious, let me see you safe home; and though I don't much like your daylight traps, yet, with a little management, I thinks I can do 'em a few.—But you seems faint and veary. No gammon, but honour bright—trust to me, and ve'll have some refreshment afore you starts.'

"Susan would have excused herself, but she was exhausted, and had not wherewithal to purchase a mouthful of bread; it was therefore her necessity, and not her will, that induced her to accompany Gentle Billy, and even lean upon his arm as they passed through one or two blind alleys, that excited apprehensions in her mind, till they suddenly darted into a passage uncheered by a single ray of light, and knocking on a door, Billy gave the countersign. Susan heard, with something like dismay, the clanking of heavy chains and the rattling of massive bolts; but she had gone too far to recede, and a feeling of feverish curiosity sustained her in the trial. A small portal was opened, and bidding her have no fear, her companion drew her within the porch. It was immediately closed, the chains and bolts were replaced, and an inner door being opened, there was a sudden blaze of light from a powerful lamp that quite dazzled the sight. Passing through the passage, they came to another door equally well secured as the first, which having entered, they were ushered into a large and comfortable apartment, in which were several men drinking, and smoking, and gambling.

ANECDOTES AND ORIGINAL LETTERS OF SIR THOMAS PICTON.

As every incident connected with the career of Sir Thomas Picton is dear to the memory of his country, and especially to military readers, the following documents will perhaps be considered worthy of a place in the pages of the United Service Journal. The gentleman to whom the writer is indebted for these MSS. has been long resident in Trinidad : he knew Picton intimately ; and was in correspondence with him until he finished his glorious career on the red field of Waterloo. In addition to the MSS. of the gallant General, the gentleman alluded to, from his own recollection, and with the assistance of others, collected a few anecdotes of Picton, when Governor of Trinidad, which, as they are connected with his earlier life, I shall first place in these extracts.

When Governor Picton raised the Militia of Trinidad, he was desirous of having, amongst others, a regiment to consist of six companies ; and ordered the inhabitants of Port of Spain to assemble and select their officers, from a Field-Officer downwards. They did so ; and twenty-two names were sent to Government House for commissions. Commissions were filled up for that number, as chosen, in the handwriting of Major Collins (who afterwards lost a leg at Albuera). The gentlemen appointed sent the secretary twenty doubloons for the trouble he had taken ; which was returned with an answer stating that he was much obliged to them, but that General Picton's secretary *never took fees*.

Governor Picton, observing the patron of a Spanish launch, who had very recently arrived with mules from the Main, lounging about Port of Spain, called to him from his house, and inquired what deterred him from bringing more ? He answered—" Señor, I have not been paid for those I have already brought." " Did you sell them for cash, and to whom ?" " Si, Señor ;" and named a respectable merchant. The latter was requested, by a note from his secretary, to call at Government House : he did so ; the fact was acknowledged ; and some casualty was alleged in defence. Picton asked—" When can you pay the patron ?" A short period was named ; upon which the money was immediately paid by his Excellency, to the equal astonishment of seller and purchaser. Turning to the latter, he said—" Now, Sir, you are my debtor."

An old lady, Madame W——, being ordered by the Alcalde de Barrio to have her lot fenced, and the front of it paved, answered that she was unable, being but a poor vender of Guinea-grass. Upon the the circumstances being made known to the Governor, he immediately sent Madame W—— eighty dollars to enable her to comply with the regulations.

A conceited prig of a planter arrived from one of the old islands, and was, of course, ushered up by the harbour-master to Picton. " Pray, Sir," inquired the General, " what is your object in visiting Trinidad—are you a merchant ?" " No, Sir." " Are you a lawyer ?" " No, Sir," he drawled out ; " I have come to continue my profession of a sugar-planter, and I flatter myself, from my long experience, I am eminently qualified for the employment." " What is your name ?"

"My name, Sir, is Hogg." "Ah!" ejaculated Picton, "a most destructive animal to the sugar-cane."

Many worthless German mercenaries, shortly after the conquest of Trinidad, deserted with their arms to the Spanish Main, Spain being then in hostilities with England. Picton, suspecting a Spanish resident of suborning these soldiers, directed a shrewd black serjeant to throw himself in his way, to ascertain if his suspicions were just. This man executed his mission well, and the Governor was right in his conjecture. An old friend, a Member of Council, to whom he related this circumstance, inquiring what he meant to do with the delinquent, he answered—"Nothing, for I tempted him; but for the future I shall have an eye upon him."

Patrick Casey, a rough, untamed Hibernian—one with whom you would be ashamed to be seen in the day, and afraid to be with at night—was in the constant habit of retailing rum to the soldiers. This source of annoyance caused frequent admonitions and threats, but they were unheeded; some measures more severe were found necessary, and on several cases of delinquency the culprit was incarcerated. One day when the list of prisoners committed to the Royal Gaol was submitted to his Excellency, he exclaimed—"What! Patrick Casey again! Who the devil committed that fellow?—what has he been now doing?" No satisfactory information was obtained; the Governor visited the gaol where Patrick Casey was caged. He was asked—"Who sent you here, Sir?" "By my soul, I came here myself, to save you trouble, as I knew you would have sent me." "Get out, you blackguard, and never come here again without orders!" He was immediately discharged.

The same respectable character was one day seen by the narrator in one of the most public streets of Port of Spain, laboriously cudgelling an associate equally respectable, each whack being preceded by the exclamation—"Don't interfere; I have General Picton's permission!" The cudgelling finished when the cudgellor was satisfied. The fact is, Picton was so much pestered by both these worthies, from complaints by the inhabitants, that he thought the *argumentum baculinum* was the best way of closing them. Permission was asked by Casey, and readily granted. The experiment succeeded, and the belligerents became neutrals as far as regarded one another.

A Mr. H——, of St. Vincent, desirous of procuring mules from Trinidad, arrived with a letter of introduction from the then acting Attorney-General, the Hon. Archibald Gloster, to Governor Picton, and was introduced, as usual, by the harbour-master, Jacobs. On hearing his name, to the utter astonishment and dismay of Mr. H——, he was instantly ordered on board again, and the vessel sent off. In vain was the letter tendered—in vain was remonstrance tried—Picton was inflexible. Great was the surprise of the banished traveller when he received, in his own island, by a brig-of-war (colonial vessel), sent off express from his hasty Excellency, an apology in the handsomest manner for what had occurred, and explaining its cause—viz. that he mistook him for an individual of the same name (a notoriously bad character), and containing an invitation to return. The invitation was accepted, Government House became his sojourn, and his views were promptly and successfully forwarded.

A Spanish launch trading to the island, was chased by a flechera, concealed by the rocks of the Bocas, but arrived safely in Port of Spain. Its patron, upon apprising Governor Picton of the circumstance, was furnished instantly with a store for his cargo, and a small detachment of the 57th Regiment, under Lieutenant Keightly, was ordered forthwith to embark in the launch, with directions to the patron to steer his course towards the haunt of the picaroon. Keightly did the work cleverly; the men were not seen until the enemy came alongside, when she and her respectable crew were brought in prisoners. The narrator was with General Picton at the moment these personages arrived. Their commander was a short, stout, dark mulatto, with formidable whiskers and ear-rings. The trembling caitiff endeavoured by all means in his power to deprecate the incensed Governor, but in vain. If my memory does not forsake me, they were all in the chain-gang the next morning.

Two or three young merchants, in a frolic, planned and carried into execution the abduction of one of Governor Picton's sheep; and, determined to do the thing well, selected the fattest one nursed in his stable. A noble dinner was provided, the initiated sworn to secrecy, and all passed off gloriously. Two of these wags called upon his Excellency a day or two after to transact business, which being effected, he turned to them in his own peculiar manner, and said,—"Gentlemen, I hope the mutton was tender." They were astounded. This anecdote was communicated to me by an officer then commanding a regiment, who was one of the gentlemen *sheep-lifters*.

It may not be uninteresting to the reader to peruse the following extract from the "Trinidad Guardian," July 7th, 1826:—

"Died on Sunday the 25th ult., in this town (Port of Spain), in a state of great misery and want, the notorious and much-talked-of Louisa Calderon."*

The following memorandum I found written at p. 184 of the 1st volume of Mr. Robinson's interesting 'Memoirs of Sir Thomas Picton,' by one of the principal medical men of the island, to whom I had lent it:—

"Louisa Calderon died in Port of Spain on Sunday the 25th June, 1826, a victim to dissipation and vice.

(Signed)

"F. S. O'C."

The first extract which I have to offer consists merely of the fragment of a letter from Harrowgate, at which place Sir Thomas Picton was residing during his convalescence after the fever which attacked him, as well as thousands besides, in the disastrous Walcheren expedition. These few lines, however, evince the penetration and foresight of the General regarding the momentous events then developing themselves in the Peninsula. We find also allusion is made, in no measured terms, to the ruling powers at the Colonial Office of that day, who appear to have treated our hero most servily; and, not contented with heaping unmerited persecution and calumny on his devoted head for a series of years, for the purpose of blighting his

* This was the woman who was made so conspicuous an instrument in the lengthened and vexatious prosecution of Sir Thomas Picton.

fair fame in every possible way, at the moment of his preparing to depart to combat the enemies of his country, and shed his blood in her cause, they continued their private and paltry machinations, to the manifest injury of the public service; but, of course, that was not to be considered when private feelings of malice were to be gratified. How successfully they plotted in this instance is clearly shown in the following lines:—

“ Harrowgate, 1st Sept., 1808.

“ How are the neighbouring provinces affected by the news from Spain? The Spanish people have showed great energy; far more than the government was capable of, even if it had been inclined to resist. Bonaparte committed himself most assuredly, and must make great exertions to retrieve his character as a statesman, which is now at stake. I was on the point of embarking with 6000 men, and incurred considerable expense in fitting myself out, when I was disappointed by some rascally machinations at the Colonial office. They [word illegible here] are such a set of intriguing rascals that I never can have confidence in any of them.”

I must here observe that, from the peculiar circumstances under which these manuscripts came into my possession, they necessarily are very unconnected, and wide gaps occur in dates, but which may be readily filled up on reference to the “Memoirs.” The following letter was written to a friend in the West Indies, about the time (*vide* “Life”) when his illustrious chief singled him out from among a host of aspiring heroes to command the gallant 3rd Division; and which he afterwards led through so many bloody and glorious fields from one end of the Peninsula to the other, and justly acquiring for them the hard-earned and enviable designation of the “Fighting Division,” and which they bravely maintained by their brilliant exploits to the termination of the eventful contest. With such leaders and such troops the British Army soon exhibited proofs that victory was not confined to the element which had hitherto been the scene of England’s proudest triumphs:—

“ Povoia de Concilio, Frontiers of Portugal, 23th Aug., 1810.

“ MY DEAR SIR,—I have been in this country since the month of January, and generally on the frontiers. I am now with the 3rd Division, which I command, within six miles of the River Côa. Lord Wellington’s army is not considerable enough to carry on offensive operations in a disadvantageous country; and Marshal Massena, notwithstanding his numbers, has hitherto showed no disposition to molest us. Our head-quarters, Albuera, are not more than sixteen miles from his at Aldea do Bispo, and we have had never but trifling affairs of advanced posts, which lead to nothing serious. The desertion from the French army is great, as well among the foreigners as the native French, who are no longer actuated by the enthusiastic spirit of the Revolution, and you may easily conceive their military operations have lost much of that irresistible spirit. . . . The war in this country will yet cost him great efforts and immense sums of money. The Peninsula is now in that situation that nothing is to be procured by either plunder or exaction, and all operations must be carried on *à force d’argent*. “The Spanish Government, equally corrupt and nugatory with the old one,

has long since been put down ; but there is an unconquerable spirit of resistance which shows itself throughout the whole Peninsula, which will require much time and great efforts to get the better of. All small detachments are cut off by the independent bands of Guerillas, who show great courage and talents for that destructive species of warfare. The peasants in this country have latterly shown a similar spirit, and you can have no idea with what rancorous spirit the business goes forward. The French troops have not been paid for near twelve months, and, of course, cannot be restrained from plunder ; and under these circumstances the peasants fall upon them and massacre them in all directions. This is a miserable kind of warfare. Lieut.-Colonel Collins is here with me, and requests best regards to all your family. . . .

" I can say nothing in answer to the letters which you have been so good as to write me since I left England. I know from my friend Marrat that there are several at my lodgings in London, waiting for a private occasion of being forwarded to this country. . . .

" I have had several severe attacks of the Walcheren fever since I have been in this country. This climate, particularly in the interior and mountainous parts, is more variable and trying than that of England, and we are all subject to frequent agues and intermittent fevers, which, though they never terminate seriously, are however very harassing, and keep a great proportion of the troops out of the field, and thereby decrease our numbers. I hope that Mrs B—— and every put of your kind family continue to enjoy good health, and that my old friend your father has not had any fresh attack. Pray offer my respects and best wishes to every one of them, and assure them of the warm interest I shall always feel in whatever respects their happiness and welfare. I was much concerned to hear of the death of the Baron de M——. He was a man of most amiable manners and disposition, and deservedly esteemed by all who knew him ; but sooner or later we must all follow him "

The next letter we shall have to notice is one from Torres Vedras, a few days subsequent to the desperate conflict of Busaco, in which we perceive that the whole weight of Massena's attack was directed upon Picton's division. The enemy certainly could not have selected a body of troops more inclined to give him a warm reception, and which they speedily discovered to their bitter cost, for, after a most sanguinary struggle, and immense efforts of the enemy to force the position, they abandoned the attempt with the heavy sacrifice of three or four thousand men, killed and wounded, and without any adequate result to the victors to compensate for the havoc made in their ranks. On looking to that portion of the memoirs alluding to the battle, there is to be found some conflicting statements as to the persons best entitled to the merit gloriously acquired on this memorable day. . . .

I shall not here attempt to discuss the question at issue, but it is merely glanced at in this place to point out to your military readers that, in the subjoined private letter of General Picton, he expressly states that his division bore the brunt of Massena's furious attack, and, from his well-known manly and honorable character, it would be doing him great injustice to suppose that he would assume a claim which could not be established by the evidence of thousands of eye-witnesses of, and

actors in, this battle. It is not intended to deteriorate one iota from the reputation of any of the gallant leaders of Division, who were justly entitled to their respective share of the laurels gleaned on the same theatre of well-earned renown. Honour to whom honour is due. It must, however, be acknowledged that Sir Thomas Picton and his brave followers bore a most distinguished and conspicuous part on this glorious occasion.

“Torres Vedras, 8th Oct., 1810.

“On my return to England, you may command my good offices in anything. I shall be extremely happy to have any opportunity of giving you proofs of my gratitude for the great attention I have so long experienced from my friends of Trinidad, and particularly from you and your respectable family. . . . We had a very sharp action on the 27th September, with the Prince of Essling. This attack was principally directed on my division, and I had the good fortune to repulse him with great slaughter in four different attempts to penetrate my line in column, which were all repelled with the bayonet. After nearly six hours' obstinate contention they at length retreated, leaving 2000 on the field, and abandoning all their wounded. They lost five Generals killed and wounded, with a number of Colonels and inferior officers. We are in expectation of a general action every day, which will probably, *for the present*, decide the fate of Portugal. To whichever party the scale of victory may incline, it will cost much blood. We have about 30,000 English troops, and nearly as many Portuguese. The enemy's force is calculated at about 80,000 men, but, from sickness and loss in the late action, he cannot bring above 64,000 into the field. I am beginning to be too old for this kind of laborious avocation, and I believe, after this business is well got rid of, I shall determine to convert my sword into a more innocent and useful instrument. My best wishes to all your family.

“Yours, &c

“THOMAS PICTON.”

We come now to the letter written from the camp before Badajoz, at a time when the British army was in hot pursuit of the invaders, and when the whole attention of every individual composing it was absorbed in efforts to overtake the fugitives in their desolating career. Massena, in the opinion of military men, obtained more renown in this retreat than he could by a victory, indeed, it was, by all accounts, worthy of Turenne. However masterly in respect to tactics, it was disgraceful on the score of humanity. The atrocities and wanton cruelties practised by the French army were only equalled by the most barbarous nations of antiquity. Massena's illustrious opponent appears not to have profited by the lesson he was shown in the *retreating line*. That particular branch of warlike science Wellington was not found to be an apt scholar in imbibing, the enemy could never beat into him the necessity of such, to them, very useful and prudent knowledge. We find at this time that stirring and important events were daily occurring in the Peninsula. The sanguinary conflict of Albuera was as desperate a battle as was fought during the war, and barren of everything but honour. Picton did not participate in this engagement. He alludes to it only *en passant* —

“Camp before Badajoz, 13th June, 1811.

“MY DEAR SIR,—I have had the pleasure of your letters of the 24th

January and 2nd February. The former I should have sooner answered, but it reached me whilst in pursuit of Masséna, whom we followed to the Agueda, within a few miles of Ciudad Rodrigo; and since that event I have been in continual movement to this extremity of Portugal, to oppose the incursion of Marshals Soult and Mortier, who had taken Badajoz, and were preparing to penetrate through the Alemtejo towards Lisbon. When I tell you that I have marched, with little interruption, about 600 miles, you will easily conceive that I had little time on my hands for correspondence on any other than military avocations.

“ Previous to my joining this army only a few days (16th May), a most sanguinary conflict took place between Lieut.-General Beresford and Marshals Soult and Mortier. Modern history does not afford an example of so obstinately-contended an action. Of the British force engaged (under 10,000), nearly 5500 were *hors de combat*. Fortune was long dubious, but the Marshals at length drew off slowly, and abandoned the field of battle and their wounded. Some of our old friends suffered severely. Colonel Collins, who commanded a Portuguese Brigade, had his leg carried off by a cannon-ball. The 57th Regiment did not bring above one-third of its number out of the field. Major Scott was killed, and Colonel Inglis severely wounded. This kind of victories will soon diminish our ranks, and incapacitate us from prosecuting the war. Marshals Soult and Mortier are now collecting every man from Andalusia, Grenada, Córdoba, and all the southern provinces, with the avowed determination of taking their revenge, and there is every reason to believe that we shall have another sanguinary conflict during the course of the present month. It must be allowed, these things come too often to afford much amusement.”

The next letter is dated from Salamanca, but is principally of a private nature, on which comment is unnecessary. It does not allude to the public events of the time. He evinces a longing after a more tranquil life, removed from war's alarms, and expresses a determination to devote himself to retirement, as soon as he can avail himself of an opportunity compatible with honour:—

“ Near Salamanca, 24th Jan., 1812.

“ MY DEAR SIR,—I have many apologies to make for not having acknowledged your various interesting letters; but I am turned and turned about so incessantly as to confuse my recollection, and I have no pause of tranquillity to think of my best friends. I can say nothing about my private affairs, except that I shall be perfectly satisfied with whatever arrangements you make; and I most sincerely and truly lament the trouble they have so long occasioned you in attending to them, for which I can only now offer you a repetition of my thanks. My eyes are becoming weaker every day, and I am totally unable to read anything without glasses, which exposes me to great inconvenience in this vagabond kind of life, for which I feel myself growing too old. I have certainly been most fortunate, having fully succeeded in every enterprise I have been employed upon, and some of them of a most difficult and arduous nature. But Fortune is a female not much to be confided in by old gallants, and it is prudent to be aware of her caprices. I have, in consequence, most seriously thought of a final retreat, which I certainly shall carry into execution on the first favourable opportunity, which, I trust, will very soon offer itself. I shall then retire into the

country, and amuse myself with the vegetable race; and if you, or any of your family, should visit England, I can offer you a *piéd à terre* and a hospitable welcome. I will not touch upon the miseries of your ill-fated and unfortunate colony. The conduct of Government towards it has been scandalous in the extreme. With best wishes to all your family,

"Your faithful servant,

"THOMAS PICTON."

In our next we find Sir Thomas Picton in London, to which he was necessitated to retire for some time to recruit his shattered health, which was much impaired by his unceasing and arduous exertions in the service of his country; and he might without vanity observe he had fully done his part: his greatest enemies could not deny that assertion. He had fairly and honourably earned in many a well-fought field the reputation of a tried and gallant soldier, and worthy to lead troops who, with unfailing confidence in his enterprise and courage, followed his banner as the certain path to victory.

We perceive a few remarks in this letter on the subject of Bonaparte's mad-brained Russian campaign. How truly he predicts the disastrous consequences that ensued to this persevering disturber of the peace of the world, who, by an expedition unexampled in folly, staked his diadem, and sacrificed half a million of men, to gratify his insatiable thirst for conquest.

"London, 28, Edward Street, Portman Square,
16th December, 1812.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have to apologize to you for a very long silence, occasioned by an indisposition which compelled me at length to resign the service in the Peninsula, and return for change of air to this country. The repeated attacks I had experienced had so weakened me that I could no longer withstand the fatigue and exposure of continual movements. I have, however, perfectly recovered since my return, and I am now in as good health as ever, and able to undertake any kind of duty; but it is not my intention at present to return to that country, or indeed to undertake any command, as I conceive I have fully done my part. Now, for the first time, there are some flattering appearances of a favourable change of affairs on the continent, wholly brought about by Bonaparte's mad attack upon the Russian Empire, in which he has absolutely exceeded the insanity of Charles XII. His imprudence has occasioned the loss of nearly his whole army, and it is even dubious whether he will be able to extricate himself singly. He affords a striking example of extraordinary talents and good fortune, without any prudence; or, perhaps, it is his good fortune that has corrupted his judgment and finally exposed him to such a sad reverse. If he can dispose of this unquiet spirit we may again see peace, which, God knows, is much wanted in all parts of this miserable world; and nowhere more than with you.

"We made a brilliant winter and spring campaign in the Peninsula, but that of the autumn, as I suspected, was not so favourable, though I think it will ultimately lead to the evacuation of the country. You go on, I know, as prudently as usual, without (which is most unfortunate) anything like a flattering prospect for the future, though I think there is a prospect of produce taking a great rise. As to my affairs, I can

say nothing of them except that they occasion you so much trouble that I am almost ashamed to think of their embarrassments to you. I, however must continue to trouble you and rely upon your goodness, without a continuance of which they will go inevitably to the dogs. I hope my very good old friend your father continues to enjoy his health. Pray offer my best respects to him, and remember me most kindly to Mrs. B—— and the young ladies, and say that I shall derive great pleasure in being favoured with their commissions if any of them will do me the honour of writing to me.

“ My dear Sir, yours, &c.

“ THOMAS PICTON.”

The letter which follows is from Lisbon, at a period when the General had, in a great measure, recovered his former health and strength, and was returned once more to the theatre of operations, notwithstanding the resolution he was disposed to carry into effect, of turning his sword into a ploughshare,—a resolution more honoured in the breach than the observance. He partook of the predilections of an old war-horse, that snuffs the battle afar off and finds the temptation strong within him to join the bloody fray; and without the gallant General's assertions, that the persuasion of his friends succeeded in shaking his resolution not to rejoin the army, we know his character sufficiently to be certain that his own inclination had no small weight in his determination. We observe at this time the Prince Regent's Government making an attempt, although tardily, to show some sense of the eminent services rendered by Sir T. Picton to his country, by investing him with the military Order of the Bath. The Portuguese Government also appear to have bestowed a similar testimonial on him, to evince the high estimation in which he was held, as one of the most conspicuous and bravest defenders of the liberties of Portugal.

Napoleon had about this period returned from his ill-fated inroad on the Muscovite capital, defeated and disgraced with the destruction of his grand army. He returned to meet the lowering storm gathering in the Peninsula, and among the crowned heads of the Continent, on which arena all the energies of Europe were concentrating to crush him. His Marshals had experienced similar disasters in collision with veteran British soldiers, led by a Chief who with unmatched skill and perseverance had baffled the attempts of Bonaparte's most renowned Generals, hitherto unacquainted with defeat. The gasconading and despicable band of Spain's degenerate sons were scattered like chaff by the veteran soldiers of France, but they found it quite another affair when opposed to those islanders whose fighting qualities and invincible courage taught them another lesson. The General, in the subjoined letter, expresses his contempt in strong and well-merited terms of the Spanish character, and which, unfortunately for the honour of their country, was too prominently exemplified on every occasion where steady courage and devotion to the cause in which they were engaged was put in requisition. Sadly, indeed, had they declined from the warlike spirit and chivalry of their warlike ancestors. We cannot ascribe it to debasing superstition and monkery, as the annals of that epoch of their history, when Spain stood at the pinnacle of her fame, are pregnant with instances of the gloomiest bigotry and unrelenting religious persecution—fire and fagot were the order of the day. We shall not offer

an opinion of the cause of the later falling off in the national character of the country—wiser heads must determine the question. We find Picton appointed to resume the command of his old Fighting Division, and which he continued to hold through all its splendid career to the crowning field of Waterloo, which terminated its brilliant services and his command, by his glorious death in the bed of honour.

“Lisbon, 23rd April, 1813.”

“MY DEAR SIR,—A variety of business, previous to my return to this country, prevented my acknowledging your kind letters, and offering you my most sincere regrets at the loss of your excellent father; an event which, I am sure, must have been extremely distressing to every part of your family, from the unvaried and mutual affection which was observable between the patriarchal head and every part of your worthy family. Believe me, my dear Sir, I fully appreciate and participate in a loss which cannot be remedied, and which requires all your good sense to bear with due resignation.”

“Contrary to my intention, I am again enlisted with the military operations of this country. I certainly had made up my mind, I thought unalterably, to retire from the fatiguing and laborious avocations of my profession; but I have allowed myself to be persuaded that it would neither be decorous nor honourable to withdraw my feeble aid at a time when there is a probability of re-establishing peace and order in the world. My feelings on the subject have been appealed to, and I have at length reluctantly yielded, and you will again hear of me at the head of the 3rd Division.”

“The Prince’s Government has endeavoured to make up for the ill treatment I formerly experienced, by appointing me to the Order of the Bath, and the Government of Portugal has held out a lure, by nominating me to the Commandership of the Tower and Sword, and a league and a half of territory. But these inducements would have had no avail in shaking my resolution, if all my friends had not joined in opinion that it would not have been honourable to withdraw my services at such a conjuncture. I shall set out to join the army in a day or two, and we shall immediately commence our operations by again penetrating into the heart of Spain. If the Spaniards were capable of any energy, I have no doubt but that we should perfectly succeed; but they have neither the spirit of men, nor common honest intentions. All with them is a mass of intrigue and deceit. My eyes are too weak to continue, having latterly suffered much from inflammation. . . .”

We now offer a letter, addressed from the French frontier, on which the Allied Army was then advancing *en route* to the heart of France, but not without sustaining desperate opposition from the different corps of the enemy, still formidable even in defeat. The consummate leader of the British Army had triumphantly fought his way, inch by inch, to the very soil of France, and, by his masterly manoeuvres, contributed mainly to the present favourable position of the affairs of Europe, and which promised tranquillity to the world at large. To this most desirable result General Picton and his gallant band nobly assisted. It must be allowed that no body of troops in the British Army could lay claim to a greater share of hard-earned laurels than Picton’s Fighting Division. It is, however, difficult, where all did their duty with such signal honour, to attempt distinctions. This advance into the French territory

and occupation of Paris completed the brilliant achievements of the British Army. It did not, however, as is well known, prove a permanent settlement of the question, as the restless and ambitious Corsican found Elba rather too circumscribed a limit for a man of his immeasurable ambition and love of power; and, as might have been supposed, a hundred days proved quite sufficient to give a distaste for his new government, which he abdicated to make one more desperate effort to recover his lost but still dearly-prized imperial diadem.

“Aspären, Lower Navarre, 20th Jan., 1814.

“MY DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 19th October reached me at this place the day before yesterday. I had been under the necessity of giving up my command after the battle of the Pyrenees, and returning to England, on account of extreme ill health; but the waters of Cheltenham having, as usual, set me up again, I determined to contribute my part to the accomplishment of this eventful contest, and I flatter myself that I am not far removed from that desirable event, of which the whole world has so much occasion. We are here between the rivers Nive and Adour, waiting most anxiously for the season to commence the operations of a campaign, which, from all appearances, must bring about a general and permanent peace. We are well received everywhere by the inhabitants of the country, and we all ride about unarmed with as much unconcern and security as if we were in the centre of England. The people here are an uncommon fine race, perfectly well disposed and uncorrupted in every respect. It is the best settled country I ever saw, and almost resembles a continued village, the houses are so thickly scattered over the space of a luxuriant well-cultivated mixture of arable and pasture grounds. The existing Government of France has no friends here, and the Chief is held in utter detestation by every one.

“We arrived here at the period of raising the last great conscription, and all the Basques profited by our arrival to escape it; so that this part of Navarre is filled with the most numerous and athletic young men to be met with in any part of the world. Marshal Soult still continues in the command of this army, but so weakened in moral composition as to oppose very little resistance when seriously attacked: they abandoned their fine fortified positions upon the Pyrenees with scarcely a struggle to defend them. The spirit of the revolution has wholly evaporated, and has been replaced by a rigid military despotism or discipline, which has wholly lost the affection of the soldiery, who appear well disposed for a change, and I think one may be hourly expected. There is not a family in France which has not to lament some of its branches, sacrificed to the endless ambition of a ruler to whom they are attached by no tie of affection or ancient prejudice. They have seen those who had the good fortune to escape the horrors of a Muscovite winter perish generally in the following year, under the rigours of a season scarcely less deleterious, in the north of Germany. They see no end to such miseries except in the destruction of their author. If Bonaparte does not make peace before the commencement of the campaign, I think he must fall.

“I am much concerned to find they are going on with the same system of senseless innovation and empiricism in your colony. The sanctified hypocrites who are at the bottom of the system are too powerful

to be resisted, and can at any time raise a war-whoop against any one who has the appearance of opposing what they call the 'interests of heaven.' Time alone can correct these inveterate rascals. I give you much joy at having rid yourself of an employment which occasioned you much embarrassment without any remuneration: you have, I am sure, the *mens conscia in recti*, which an honest and upright man will always entrench himself behind, whatever may happen.

" My best wishes to Mrs B——.

" Very faithfully yours,

" THOMAS PICTON."

Among the manuscripts there are two or three letters, in addition to the foregoing; but, as they relate solely to private affairs, it is not necessary to introduce them here, with the exception of one addressed, in his temporary retirement from broil and battle, from his beautiful seat of Iscoed, South Wales, where he had quietly, and, no doubt, as he thought, permanently, sat himself down to enjoy some repose after his long and arduous military toils and fatigues. But there was no rest for the warrior: the tocsin of battle sounded the blast through Europe, and roused Britain's sons once more to renew the contest with their old antagonist. "Our gallant General was one of the foremost to offer his valuable services to meet the coming storm, which were too well appreciated by his illustrious Commando. not to be instantly and gladly accepted. It is scarcely necessary to enter on a detail of what is known to all the world, that Sir Thomas Picton fought and fell gloriously in the cause of his country at the ever memorable Battle of Waterloo. He there found a death worthy of a hero and a soldier—leaving a name to posterity which will remain imperishable on the rolls of fame.

" Iscoed, near Carmarthen, South Wales,
October 12, 1814.

" MY DEAR SIR,—As I mentioned in my former letter, your South American friends (alluding to the Marquis del Toro, and his brother, Don Fernando), in my opinion, had better remain quiet, without taking any active part in the struggles which unhappily still continue with unabated rancour in their native countries. until something decisive is done on one side or the other no step can be taken with safety. The mother country is very far from being in a tranquil state; and the conduct of the new Government has been so unwise, and, in many respects, so atrocious, as to alienate the affections of all liberal minds. Those who distinguished themselves by their obstinate resistance to the intrusive Government, and by whose activity and co-operation we were enabled to liberate the country, are generally disgraced, exiled, or incarcerated—and the most unqualified despotism pervades the whole country to such a degree, that the military government of the ex-Emperor is everywhere regretted. General Alava, one of the honestest, most enlightened, and most liberal men I know in any country, who was attached to the Duke of Wellington as Spanish Secretary during the whole course of the war, has just been thrown into the prisons of the Inquisition. I am really ashamed of having lent a hand to the re-establishment of such a rascally system.

" Yours, &c. "

THOMAS PICTON."

ANECDOTES OF SIR SIDNEY SMITH.*

DERIVED FROM HIMSELF.

DURING the whole time that Sir Sidney was performing the high and important duties of an Ambassador at the Porte, he never received the salary of one, nor, indeed, any remuneration whatever—which, without taking his situation as a mere Ambassador into consideration, the great services he rendered his country while in that capacity, and the very serious expenses incidental to the station, so justly entitled him to. On mentioning the disagreeable position he was placed in to Lord Castlereagh, when he went to Vienna, that unfortunate nobleman immediately acknowledged the claim, and satisfied it; but, to use Sir Sidney's own words—"As he thought proper to terminate his existence shortly afterwards, and neglected to leave an official memorandum of the transaction, Sir Sidney was obliged to refund the money; and up to the present moment, although he has been perpetually promised by the different Ministers that he should be indemnified and settled with, he has never received one farthing."

* But to return to his visit to Lord Castlereagh. It was upon this occasion, in an interview with Prince Metternich, who happened to call upon his Lordship while Sir Sidney was with him, that the following incident occurred:—

The Prince, no doubt thinking this a good opportunity for acquiring some particular information he wished to have respecting our policy in the East, turned the conversation upon one or two events in which Sir Sidney had acted a prominent part; and then, requesting to be favoured with an account of such-and-such a circumstance that he had heard of, he would very skilfully, as he thought, while Sir Sidney was telling it in one of those pleasant veins of humour for which he is so remarkable, take occasion carelessly to observe, that it was very singular So-and-So should have been of the party, by way of inducing Sir Sidney—who, he was sure, must have known that this So-and-So was not there, and *why*—to divulge the diplomatic secret. Metternich knew he was acquainted with, while explaining how impossible it was this person could have been present. "His Highness baited his hook," said the Admiral, "and cast it in two or three times with great tact; but he had not such a gudgeon to catch as he bargained for."

At length, in one instance, when Sir Sidney was relating * * * the wily statesman, observed how strange it was that ——— should have been there. * * *

"I should think so," conceded Sir Sidney, inclining his head, and smiling—"I should think so—it certainly must have been very strange: and, *à propos*, it brings to my recollection an anecdote that will perhaps amuse your Highness, which a merry, facetious, fat little fellow, called Hagi Baba, an Arabian, and Bash Ademeh (Chief of the Pages) to the Sultan, told me at a time when I was anchored close to the Seraglio walls for the protection of its inmates. I found him one day smoking his pipe, with a broad grin on his face, and looking as if something had

just crossed his mind that tickled his fancy amazingly. I was merely upon a visit of curiosity; and as I entered the hall he arose and saluted me, with his cheeks prodigiously inflated with the desperate effort he was making to preserve his gravity; and this he was not long able to do, but burst out into a 'most unoriental roar of laughter,' and, taking me by the hand to some cushions, he again squatted down, and, bidding me follow his example—for my frequent intercourse with the Sultan had made us well acquainted—he told me he had been amused a few hours before with such a sly trick of the Sultan that he could not help laughing whenever he thought of it, and he was passing it over in his mind when I came in. It was this:—His master, wishing to find out whether the Reis Effendi was one of the conspirators in the insurrection, had sounded an intimate friend of his, Sadi Ombank—but whether he was too deep, or that he really knew nothing of the matter, was not then known: certain it is that no information could be obtained from him in the slightest degree to implicate the Reis Effendi. The Sultan, however, still felt persuaded that Sadi could tell a different story if he liked, and he was half-determined in his wrath to have him tied up in a sack and sent on a voyage of discovery down the Rosporus: but, as this was not the way to obtain the secret from him, he called for his Vizier, and told him what he had done in his perplexity. His Chief Minister replied, with all deference and humility, that he had not gone the right way to work in sifting Sadi Ombank; and, as he had seen him in the gardens as he passed, he would summon him immediately; at the same time advising the Sultan to make him tell some story,—‘For be it known to you,’ said Hagi Baba, ‘that old Sadi is most unaccountably fond of telling long stories, and exciting the wonder and admiration of his auditors; and, although in other respects a man of good sense and discretion, this is his weak point: but not his weakest,’ added Hagi, with peculiar emphasis, and, placing his fore-finger along his nose, and closing one eye as he spoke—(‘He was a comical dog,’ said Sir Sidney, in telling me this anecdote)—“‘his weakest and most fatal fault,’ continued Hagi, ‘was that he would allow you to worm anything out of him you pleased while telling these stories.’”

Prince Metternich relaxed his features into a smile.

Sir Sidney, appearing not to notice it, proceeded:—“The Sultan, at the suggestion of his councillor, walked with him at once into the garden, where they found old Sadi indulging in a sweet reverie, and leaning against a tree near the pavilion, with his eyes fixed on a tender rose-bud that was gradually expanding beneath the genial influence of an eastern sun. I was in attendance, and heard all. Now he had not been dismissed in anger, and was, therefore, in his usual happy and serene state of mind, and felt highly flattered when the Sultan called him into the pavilion, and desired him to relate one of his best stories.

“‘I will tell your Highness one which happened lately,’ said Sadi; and began at once, in his pompous manner, to tell the very best he could have hit upon to favour the Sultan’s plan, but the very worst for his own happiness; and it was his last—it was decreed to be so, and was written in the *Lanh Almafondh**. ‘Thrice has the light of the world

* The Book of Destinies. It is composed of two entirely distinct parts. The one, immutable, eternal like God, constitutes that which the Arabs call “The Mother of the Book,” and define as “the Knowledge of God, in which the things

burst out in dazzling effulgence from behind yon minarets and domes since Aboulgâcim, fearing thy impartial justice, departed for his pashalic; but ere he left these walls he cut off a parent flower resembling that which bends so affectionately over the young bud; and its lovely and beautifully-blooming offspring, in all the freshness of virginity and coloured with the richest blushes, would have been torn away by the same hand, and carried to his gilded chambers to gratify the burning desire of the moment, and, the brief enjoyment past, have been thrown aside to droop and exhale its delicious perfume, and wither and die neglected and uncared for; had not you!—

“ ‘That affair has already reached us,’ interrupted the Sultan; ‘and Hassan Alattan assisted to lop off the flower that once blossomed in our own harem.’

“ ‘Pardon me, great Sir,’ said the silly old fellow; ‘Hassan Alattan was closetted at the time, and in high debate with the Reis Effendi.’

“ ‘I very much doubt it,’ rejoined the Sultan.

“ ‘Most true, nevertheless,’ said Sadi; ‘for it was just at the time that the Agar—but I think your Highness,’ he observed, suddenly checking himself, ‘has not heard my story before, and’——

“ ‘I’ve heard enough,’ replied the Sultan, quickly. ‘By the tribe of Koraysch*, I have discovered the traitor!’

“ ‘Poor old Sadi saw, that he had betrayed his friend, and he did not dare refuse now to reveal all he knew, after he recovered from the stupefaction into which his egregious folly had plunged him; and then he looked quite bewildered, and there was something so irresistibly ludicrous in his doleful aspect, that the Sultan, who was not in a bad humour, pardoned him his deception, and walked away, leaving him to the enjoyment of his own company—which, I suppose, was not very much to his taste just then, for he slipped away, and ran to warn the Reis Effendi, who rewarded him for the part he had been playing as he might have expected. The Sultan’s messengers of death arrived at the Reis Effendi’s nearly at the same moment as poor Sadi’s head rolled at his feet: he knew what his own fate would be, and, while his arm was yet free, with a stroke of his scimitar he nearly severed his own head from his body.”

“ ‘Very good, indeed—very good,’ remarked the Prince; “a lesson from you, Sir, would perhaps have put him more on his guard for the future. It conveys a moral which you yourself appear to have attended to,” he added, with a smile; and, rising, invited Sir Sidney to go with

are unchangeable.” The other part is susceptible of abrogation,* in such wise that the decrees which are found inscribed at a certain epoch can be revoked or modified by God to a subsequent one. From this it arises that the *Awlâd* (sing. *Waly*)—that is to say, men who have attained the highest degree of sanctity—when the slave enters into the confidence of his Master (a), and can read in the book of “Destinies,”—sometimes make predictions which are never fulfilled, and which can only be accounted for by the decrees which have been revealed to the world having been afterwards revoked by the will of God. Such, at least, is the belief of the Arabs.—J. F.

* The tribe of Koraysch, to which Mahomet belonged, was the issue of Ishmael, the son of Abraham.

(a) The Mussulmans do not represent God as a Father of whom they are the children, but as a merciful Master of whom they are the slaves.

him to the King, which he did, as an audience had been requested and granted.

As Sir Sidney concluded, we arose from the table, delighted and entertained, as usual, with his versatile powers of conversation, that flows copiously and gracefully into any channel it may chance to be conducted, whatever the branches of knowledge to which it leads; and from such-like stories of his past life would he turn with easy transition to illustrate with the happiest perspicuity the leading facts and principles of knowledge and science, or describe the manners and pursuits of various nations, and the natural and artificial productions of other countries.

Colonel W——, during dinner, touched upon the scheme of the French Government for conquering and colonizing the territory of Algiers, and expressed his surprise at the defeat of the French expedition at Constantine. Sir Sidney replied, that the French were little qualified to colonize barbarous or half-civilized countries; and gave many excellent reasons for their want of success, which I do not relate on account of their singular accordance with the arguments and opinions of Rozet, which he has given in his "*Voyage dans la Régence d'Algèr.*" A wealthy, and one of the most distinguished Poles that unhappy country can boast of numbering amongst her truest patriots (I forget his name, they are so awkward to remember) inquired if the Arabs did not sometimes procure large quantities of gold from some mountains in the adjacent countries; and Sir Sidney told him that they fetched it from the empire of Houssa, and the Wangara, or gold country, where it is found washed down from the Kong Mount. and thus discoursing, he was led to make some curious observations on the commerce between Northern and Central Africa, and those lands visited by the merchants and traders of Egypt, and, I believe, Phœnicia, and whither our modern enterprising travellers have hitherto failed to penetrate—the substance of which will be found in this letter from Admiral Sir Sidney Smith to the Right Honourable Vesey FitzGerald, when President of the Board of Trade, and which will convey a slight idea of the vigorous, comprehensive, and ever-active mind of the accomplished writer:—

"DEAR SIR,—It is desirable that the attention of the Board of Trade, and commercial cities where steam-vessels are in use, should be called to a part of Africa nearer Gibraltar, and more healthy, than Sierra Leone—consequently, offering facilities towards that extension of commerce in new channels, which Parliament professes to have so much at heart to provoke, excite, and support, in lieu of the inhuman slave-trade. The part in question is the southern slope of Atlas, accessible from each end by the Syrtis in the Mediterranean, and from the Atlantic Coast, opposite the Canary Islands, by Santa Cruz (Agadeer), Werdnou, and Arguin, at the south-west end of that immense chain inhabited by aborigines and descendants of the Phœnicians and Roman colonists, who have little intercourse with Morocco or the Barbary State, and who are systematically insulated by those Powers, and debarred from intercourse with Europeans, lest arms should be imported, and a combination made in their favour, such as would prevent these Saracen locusts from exacting contributions from them sword in hand, to a degree that impoverishes them so that they have less surplus wherewith to buy such European commodities as may find their way to them. They are not, however,

without the precious metals, in the form of massive ornaments, and hoards of Spanish dollars received from the Jews for corn supplied to the wine countries in the south of Europe. This new channel would, I am persuaded, afford a great vent for our muslins, calicoes, light woollens, cutlery, and earthenware—returning gold-dust and ingots, Morocco leather, gum, ostrich feathers, hard woods, raw silk, mohair, and raw materials of various kinds; also corn, to counterbalance our dependence on the Baltic and Black Sea. Commerce of this kind would operate favourably towards the abolition of the northern slave-trade, without which all our efforts to the westward of the Negro States operate but imperfectly towards the tranquillity and safety of the population.

“I visited Morocco in 1787-8, and the northern slope of this chain near the Atlantic; and was assured by travellers who came from the southward that they had had to pass ravines and beds of torrents like deep arms of a formerly-existing sea, the edges encrusted with salt, and having rolled pebbles and broken shells in the deeper channels, to which facts the narrative of shipwrecked persons furnish concurrent testimony. I was assured that anchors with four branches (the Phœnician form) were to be seen in these valleys; and the Arabic name of one, Wed-el-Marsa, ‘the Valley of Anchorage’ (though no longer used as such from the barred entrance), affords proof of the tradition of the natives as to the water formerly having been there open to the sea, if it has not been used as a port by them since their invasion. Arguin Island, in a bay behind the shoal sand-bank of that name (on which the ill-fated, ill-disciplined, ill-directed Medusa was wrecked*), affords excellent anchorage. This was the first commercial establishment of the Portuguese on that coast, and was relinquished from the excessive heat of the evening sun reflected from the white shining sand-hills of the bay on the opposite coast, as in a focus.

“At present the only port of Arguin is Santa Cruz, called by the Moors Agadeer. It is shut up by an edict of the Emperor of Morocco, to favour his comparatively new establishment at Mogadore, from which he raises a certain revenue, and where he encourages European merchants and Gibraltar Jews to reside, whose intercourse with any other port is interdicted.

“Mr. Jackson, who resided at Santa Cruz twenty years, has published a detailed and interesting account of its commerce with Timbuctoo, where his partner resided. The pretended difficulties of the journey across the desert are all the inventions of the Jews, to preserve their present monopoly. Adam, in his account of his shipwreck, kept an itinerary, which is corroborated by other accounts published by Mr. Walkner, and the Hydrographical Society of Paris, of which I am one of the founders. The Arabs bring the gold of the Empire of Houssa and the Wangara, or gold country, where it is found washed down in very considerable quantities, across the desert to Soak Aasa, a great mart, or Bledel-Moussa; so called from the tomb of an ancestor of the present Sheik being there situated, and is considered as a sanctuary.

“The character of the present Sheik, Isidi Hishem, is well delineated

* Being unaware of the indraught of the current, though well known to the ancients, and experienced sea officers of modern times.—J. F.

by Mr. Jackson, and he states him to be very sore, as also the inhabitants of Agadeer, under the close of the port by the edict of the Emperor; since which they are impoverished by being deprived of the commanding advantages they formerly enjoyed. Sidi Hishem is sufficiently rich and powerful to resist the exactions of the Emperor of Morocco's black troops. He guards the only two (very narrow) passages in Mount Atlas, with a comparatively small force, and sends only such presents to the Emperor as his respect, for his lineage from Mahomet, by Fatima and Ali, induces him to afford, but not as a tribute or homage, which he expressly disavows. The Sheik is at war with the Emperor of Morocco just now, so that all intercourse with Mogadore is closed.

"It is recommended to open it directly by means of the Lancerote, Fuerteventura, and other Canary Island boats, and to send a surveying vessel to examine Wednoon and Wed-el-Marsa, verifying carefully whether the great desert is not lower than the Atlantic, and ascertaining the width of the bar, to see if my operation at Lake Marcotis, behind Alexandria, into which I let the sea, is or is not practicable.* The same examination and verification should also be made in the Syrtis, between Bengazy, at the south-west corner of Barca (the ancient Cyrene), and the north-east end of Atlas, called Benolid. This whole extent, from the Atlantic to Alexandria, might be explored by a Mahometan Sepoy in our service, professing to be homeward bound through Mecca,

* Extract from a letter to the Consul at Mogadore:—

"To revert to the geology of the coast, pray inquire particularly as to the districts in the deserts where shells and rounded pebbles are found, and whether there are any of the latter at the edge of or under the vegetable earth washed down from the southern slope of Mount Atlas chain, all the way to Guadames, or further from Benolid to the now dry Barhabla, the south-east of the great Syrtis, beyond the Fezza Hills and the table-land of Barka or the Cyrene. If so we shall acquire a knowledge of the Ethiopic Sea, which Isaiah describes as existing in his time (chap. xv. 3.), and the waters of which were to *fail* from the sea (chap. xix. 5), which I interpret as having been realized by the growing up of the two entrances at the extremes of the Atlas chain, from the effect of surf, under the impulse of constantly prevailing winds and currents in the same direction.

"There is also another dried-up basin, eastward of the Barka table-land, called Berck Marsa, forming the ancient frontier of Egypt; the port being then called Paratonium, also Ammonia, and Aphis (Boun-Adjoukah). * * *

"It" (the district in question) "occurs to me only now as the east end of a long canal, which I am of opinion would be formed by the reintroduction of the sea consequent on the removal of the bar at either end, as I introduced it behind Alexandria into Lake Marcotis, when I caused the double dyke between it and Lake Mahdie to be cut during the siege in 1800, giving nine or ten feet depth of water. And taking it for granted, as I do, that gusts of wind from the snow-capped Atlas, which form the sand-hills at the end of the desert, have left a hollow, whence the light soil was blown away, where not bound by the vegetation extending as far as the draining of the snow-water.

"All this, however, is premature at present; but I wished to give you an outline of the distant perspective, in order to furnish you with the sort of questions to be asked, and the information to be sought. It will be quite sufficient for the present to open a friendly intercourse with Sidi Hishem, and to give him a port; towards leading his mind to which I send him (to be conveyed by such means as no doubt you can find, either by his own returned messengers or a special one of your own) a perfect model of a coasting schooner, with some little curiosities, as a present and peace-offering. He may not know who I am, but you can tell him I had some brave 'Mugrehbins,' or western Arabs, with me in the defence of Acre, and the recovery of Egypt, eight-and-twenty years ago; and I am not so old and worn out now but that I could pay him a visit were he to invite me."

who would join the annual caravan that passes Gadames from the westward, and this of right, without favour. There are probably serjeants who write, and who could keep a journal in Arabic, if not in English.

" I close by offering my personal services to the country towards the development of a plan of such magnitude, offering in prospective the completion of the plan for the abolition of the slave-trade in Africa, the suppression of piracy by the Barbary states, and the extension of commerce generally.

" I have the honour to remain, dear Sir,
Your obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

" W. S. SMITH.

" To the Right Hon. Viscount FitzGerald,
President of the Board of Trade,
&c. &c. &c."

In the gold districts, mentioned by Sir Sidney, where it is washed down from the mountains, it was formerly (and perhaps is still) the custom to fix hurdles, with sheep-skins stretched out on them, across the ravines and fissures in the rocks, and in other places where the waters descended, in order to catch the treasure in the variety of substances that are swept along by the stream, and which adheres to the wool; the skins are afterwards cleansed of the dirt and other foul matter by a particular process, and only the gold remains, sticking to them like so much sand, which is to the minutest particle carefully extracted. In some parts gold alone is washed down by clear streams; and where this is the case the fleeces are weighed previously to their being fixed upon stakes in the water, and when sufficiently loaded with the precious sand, or dust, dried and sold in the same state—so much of course being deducted, for the weight of the fleece prior to being put into the water. And this was the origin of the Order of the Golden Fleece.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

FRANCE.

We learn, from the details contained in the Budget for the year 1839, that the town of CHÂTOMONT is likely to play hereafter a prominent part in the defensive system of France; for the Board of Fortification appears to lay great stress upon converting this place into a strong bulwark. The expense of erecting the internal works is estimated at 4,000,000 francs, or about 160,000*l.*, and that of the external at 3,000,000, or about 120,000*l.* The purchase of the ground necessary for giving full effect to the plan in contemplation will be 800,000 francs, or about 32,000*l.* Independently of the buildings which will be required for the lodging of the garrison and civil *employés*, the outlay already contemplated is little short of 320,000*l.* Châtumont is a handsome town, built on the side of a hill on the high road from Paris to Basle, and upon the left bank of the Marne: 139 miles S.E. of the French capital. It is the chief town of the department of the Haute Marne, and contains about 6150 inhabitants. The place was surrounded

by walls in Louis XII.'s reign, and further fortified by his successors; but the defences were suffered to go to decay until the French Government determined to renovate it as a fortified town in 1821, since which time large sums have been spent in increasing its strength. It is situated in 48° 7' N. lat. and 5° 9' E. long.

HOLLAND.

At the close of last year the Dutch Army possessed the following corps of officers:—

1 Field-Marshal (the Prince of Orange), and 1 Lieutenant-Field-Marshal, or "Kolonel-Général" (Prince Frederick of the Netherlands); 3 Generals of "Infantry," 16 Lieutenant-Generals, 40 Major-Generals, 38 Colonels, 18 Lieutenant-Colonels, 76 Majors, 254 Captains, and 523 First-Lieutenants, and 387 Second-Lieutenants. The "Cavalry" officers consisted of 2 Major-Generals, 6 Colonels, 14 Lieutenant-Colonels, 16 Majors, 69 Captains, 60 First-Lieutenants, and 79 Sub-Lieutenants. The "Marechaussée" (Military Police) comprised 3 Majors, 5 Captains, 5 First and 8 Sub-Lieutenants; and the "Artillery," 1 General, 1 Lieutenant-General, 5 Major-Generals, 7 Colonels, 10 Lieutenant-Colonels, 17 Majors, 30 Captains, 140 First-Lieutenants, and 102 Sub-Lieutenants. The "Engineers" had 1 Lieutenant-General, 2 Major-Generals, 4 Colonels, 6 Lieutenant-Colonels, 8 Majors, 29 First and 13 Sub-Captains, and 35 First and 34 Sub-Lieutenants. The administrative functions of the Dutch Army are entrusted to 3 Comptrollers (Intendants) of the First and 5 of the Second Class, 8 Deputy-Comptrollers, 4 Adjunct and 4 Cadet-Comptrollers, 25 Captain-Quartermasters, and 91 First and Second-Lieutenant-Quartermasters. This enumeration does not include the corps of officers attached to the troops on duty in the East and West Indies. Those on duty in the eastern colonies consist of 3 Colonels, 9 Lieutenant-Colonels, 22 Majors, 100 Captains, 326 Lieutenants of both classes—and 3 Captains, and 31 Sub-Lieutenants, who are natives of those colonies.

POLAND.

The population of this kingdom amounted in the year 1829 to 4,137,634 souls, which gave an increase of nearly 50,000 on that of the preceding year. In 1834 it amounted to 4,103,196, which exhibits a decrease of 34,439 as compared with 1829. The number of females exceeds that of males by 32,000. In 1837 the marriages were 110,798; births, 208,908; and deaths, 132,027: so that in this year 76,881 were added to the population. The rural population is at present 3,300,000, of whom 66,000 peasantry pay taxes: an increase of 6000 since the year 1833*. Warsaw had 139,654 inhabitants in 1829; and 136,062 in 1834. Previously to the first of these years they had increased at the rate of 3000—or about two and a quarter per cent. yearly. The length of the highways at this time is 1475 versts—about 980 miles. Besides the late war, the population has suffered greatly by the prevalence of the cholera, which is estimated to have carried off 81,000 individuals.

[From official Returns made by Prince Paskevitch, Vice-Regent of Poland.]

RUSSIA.

The colossal statues of Field-Marshal Princes Kutusoff-Smolenski and Barclay de Tolly, in bronze, have at length been placed in front of the Kasan Church in St. Petersburg. Kutusoff is habited in a Field-Marshal's uniform, holding up his mantle, which is thrown loosely over his uniform, with his right hand, and pointing to the distance with his left, in which he grasps a Field-Marshal's bâton. A French standard is lying at his feet. The statue is above six feet in height, and upwards of seven tons

in weight. The pedestal is of granite, and about ten feet high : the entire elevation, therefore, is about sixteen feet. Barclay de Tolly is also habited in a Field-Marshal's uniform.

THE CALMUCKS.

According to an official Return for the year 1836, the Calmuck population of that year numbered 15,000 kibitkes or tents ; it may, therefore, be estimated at about 60,000 souls, independently of 5370 ecclesiastics, at the head of whom is a Lama.

CIRCASSIA.

The education of Circassian youth forcibly reminds us of the heroic ages of Greece ; for few boys in this country are allowed to remain under their parents' roof until they have attained to manhood. As soon as a male child comes into the world, a bow and quiver of arrows are given him as symbolical of his future destination ; an amulet is at the same time fastened to some part of his body for the purpose of warding him against enchantments and evil eyes. After the tender years of childhood are passed, he is taken away from his mother and placed under the care of some warrior of repute for skill in military exercises. This individual undertakes to act the part of a father by him, and receives the appellation of Attalik, or step-father. The boy is not allowed to see his parents on any one occasion while in the Attalik's hands ; so jealous are the Circassians lest their youth should be allowed to run wild by the parents' neglect, or be rendered effeminate by over indulgence. The Circassian appears, indeed, in his early years to avoid everything which may enervate him, and his scruples extend even to the society of his wife and children. From this motive he not only bids defiance to the violence of the elements, but cheerfully encounters hunger and thirst ; and though he might remain under his own roof, faring sumptuously every day, will oftentimes wander up and down the country for weeks together with no other fare in his bag but a modicum of hulse and a bottle of skhau. He is, in truth, a living pattern of self-denial and abstemiousness, and avoids all luxurious displays save when thrown into strangers' society, or playing his part on public occasions. When, however, he reaches a more advanced period of life, he lays all his asceticism on the shelf, and sets about what we should call "enjoying himself;" for in every quarter you will find the Circassian of matured years fondly devoted to the companionship of his wife and children ; his homestead the very picture of domestic happiness. As far as my own experience and information go, I should say that no married people live on terms of more perfect harmony and good understanding together than the Circassian and his wife—sharing emulously in mutual solicitude for the wants and comfort of their household, and anxiously assisting one another in training their children until they are of an age to be placed in more competent hands.

CHINA.

THE ARMY.

The Mandshoers, with the Mongolians and Chinese, who accompanied them upon their first invasion of China, constitute a distinct military community, which is divided into "standards." Every standard is sub-divided into three sections, each section or division into companies, and every company consists of 150 men. The Mandshoers of Pekin form 681 companies, mustering 102,150 men ; the Mongolians quartered in that city compose 204, and muster 30,600 ; and the Chinese, with their 266, muster 39,900. The whole force of the Mandshoers, who do the provincial duty,

amounts to 840 companies, or 128,000 men. To these are to be added the "Wild-hunters," who consist of 39 companies of Dachours, 47 of Solones, and 11 of Tunguses, who are quartered in Oluntshun: these 97 companies muster 14,550. The land forces of China would, from these data, appear to amount to 2088 companies, and muster 313,200 men: the age for service is from their twenty-fifth to their sixtieth year. A census of the state of the military classes is made every two or three years, and the names of every male of sixteen years and upwards is comprised in the returns. There is a Prince at the head of every standard, who is styled a "Dshasak," a term denoting a ruler; immediately under him are the "Tosolaktshi," his adjutant or aid-de-camp, and the "Chosho-dshaugin," or bearer of the standard, with the "Neiren-dshaugin," his aid or adjutant; and next we have the "Dshalan-dshaugin," or colonels, and the "Somo-dshaugin," or heads of squadrons and companies.

The Chinese troops form two separate classes: the one consisting of the Mandshoors, Mongolians, and Mandshoor-Chinese; and the other of native-born Chinese. The first-named class is selected from the different standards, and thence denominated exclusively "Standard Troops;" the last-named class bear green standards, whence they are termed the "Troops of the Green Standard:" the former garrison the principal cities and towns of the empire, while the latter do the ordinary duty of ports, as well within as beyond the frontiers of China. The Standard Troops amount to 266,000, and the Troops of the Green Standard to 666,300: forming a total force of 932,300 men. The Government maintains 3000 regular troops in Thibet, beside a number of irregulars. With regard to Turkestan, there are not more than 500 native soldiers in Cashgar, but there are very numerous Chinese garrisons in all the towns, which are furnished from the adjacent province of Gan-su.

[From a communication made by Father Hyacinth Bitschurin to the Academy of Arts and Sciences in St. Petersburg—dated Kiatcha, 21st Aug. 31, 1837.]

KONSTANTINEH.

The province of Konstantineh, or Constantineh, is washed along its northern shores by the Mediterranean; on the east it borders on the Regency of Tunis, while the long, steep, and lofty chain of the Jurjura, which, branching out from the Great Atlas in the direction of north and south, and subsiding next to Cape Bougia, divides it from the provinces of Tittery and Algiers. Its southern frontiers extend as far as the great desert of Zahara, but it has no defined limit upon this sandy zone. Following the sinuosities of the coast, the length of this province is above 300 miles, and its breadth, which has not yet been ascertained, may probably be, on an average, about 255 miles. Its extent, therefore, is greater than that of many kingdoms in Europe.

The Regency of Tunis was formerly in possession of Constantineh, but the Algerines, favoured by the Coubay tribes, who were become disaffected to the Bey of Tunis, rendered themselves masters of the whole of this Beylick towards the end of the seventeenth century, and have retained possession of it to the present day. It is traversed by two parallel chains of the Atlas mountains,—one called the Little Atlas, which runs at a short distance from the coast, and the other the Great Atlas, extending southward along the frontiers of the great desert. The plateau between these two parallel chains lies at a considerable elevation above the level of the sea, and presents the appearance of an immense plain. In this elevated situation Constantineh, the capital of the whole province, is built.

The province was under the government of a bey, appointed by the Dey of Algiers, at whose sole pleasure he retained his office. In this capacity he exercised absolute power over his vast district, and having the manage-

ment of the public revenues, which he frequently augmented by extortion, he was charged with defraying the whole expense of the government and defence of his province. He was, besides, obliged to send to Algiers every year a large quantity of provisions, and a sum in money amounting to about 12,000*l.*; this sum was thrown into the treasury of the Regency: the provisions were obliged to maintain Janissaries and sailors. The compulsory presents which the Bey of Constantineh remitted also to the Dey of Algiers, and upon which his authority and life depended, were at least equal in amount to the sums which passed into the public treasury. The direct and indirect taxes and extortions of all kinds with which the province was oppressed, produced an annual revenue of at least 120,000*l.* The public revenues being wasted altogether, while in frivolous expenses, were highly prejudicial both to agriculture and commerce, which, far from receiving any support from the Government, the husbandman and trader were ground down by a continual system of exaction. Uncultivated plains and ruins are now the only vestige left of the beautiful provinces of Numidia, which, in former times, sent 300 bishops to the second council of Carthage.

The Romans regarded the town of Constantineh (formerly Cirta) as the strongest and most wealthy place in all Numidia. It was the royal residence of Massinissa and his successors; and we learn from Strabo that it contained magnificent palaces, and that, at the invitation of King Micipsa, a Grecian colony had settled there, bringing with them the arts and industry of Greece. We are told, on the same authority, that this single town could send 20,000 foot and 10,000 cavalry into the field. Being destroyed in 311, during the wars of Maxentius against Alexander, a peasant of Pannonia, who had proclaimed himself Emperor in Africa, it was subsequently restored and embellished by Constantine; on which occasion it laid aside its ancient and illustrious appellation of Cirta, and adopted that of its restorer, which it still retains.

We are indebted to Edrisi, an Arabian writer of the twelfth century, for some particulars upon the state of Constantineh during the middle ages. He says, "This town is populous and commercial; its inhabitants are rich; they mutually associate for the cultivation of their lands and preservation of their harvests. The corn which they deposit in subterranean vaults, often remains there for a century, without undergoing any change. Being surrounded almost completely by a river deeply imbedded in rocks, and enclosed within lofty walls, it is regarded as one of the strongest places in the world." The Romans looked upon it as the most important position both for the conquest and defence of Numidia. In the first Punic war Massinissa lost no time in making himself master of it. Jugurtha, too, employed all his skill to get it into his possession. Metellus and Marius successfully directed all their military movements from this strong and central position against their able and indefatigable opponent. Again, when the Vandals in the fifth century invaded Numidia and the three Mauritanias, and destroyed all their flourishing cities, Constantineh resisted the devastating torrent.

We will now proceed to give a short sketch of the other towns in the province:—those of the lower plateau between the little Atlas and the sea are, 1st. *Bougie*, formerly called *Saldæ*, near Cape Carbon, at the extremity of the Jurjura: its harbour is secure and well protected against the north and north-west winds, which prevail in these latitudes. It once enjoyed a flourishing trade, but its population has gradually dwindled away, and at present does not amount to 2000: its antient walls have fallen into ample ruin in many parts, but the castle, or kasbah, is still in tolerable preservation. Being situated nearly in the centre of the shores of Algiers, occupying a position naturally strong and easy of defence, and having an excellent harbour, it fixed the attention of the acute minister of Ferdinand and Isabella, Cardinal Ximenes, who brought it under Spanish

dominion, and resolved to make it the central point of a new Spanish colony in this part of Africa.

2nd. *Gigel*, a sea-port between Bougie and Collo, is important, both on account of the fertility of the surrounding country, and its natural strength; being built on a cape, or peninsula, which is joined to the continent by a low tongue of land. It was the first African town subdued by Barbarossa: in 1664 it was taken by a French fleet, and remained for some time under the French power, till it fell into the hands of the Turks. It contains an impoverished population, dwelling in 200 or 300 miserable huts.

3rd. *Collo* was a flourishing and populous town under the dominion of the Romans, who made it their chief naval dépôt. It was also one of the principal sea-ports of the French African company for the purchase of oil, wool, honey, skins, &c.; but the long wars of the French revolution annihilated this commerce, and reduced the ancient splendour of Collo to decay.

Collo, Gigel, and Bougie are surrounded by the tribes of the Coubayes, or Kabyles, who form the most warlike portion of the native population. These people have always refused to pay tribute to the Janissaries of Algiers, with whom they treat as an equal power. They follow a settled and agricultural life, and are far more industrious than the rest of the native population of Algiers. The Coubayes of Jurjura have a town at Colla, at the foot of the eastern slope of this chain, containing from 3000 to 4000 souls, where they carry on the manufacture of iron, steel, and other metallic wares, and prepare gunpowder with the saltpetre which the soil of Algiers yields nearly everywhere in abundance.

4th. *Stora*, near the ruins of the ancient Russicata, is an important position between Collo and Bona, being the nearest sea-port to Constantineh. Its harbour is well sheltered against the north-west. A plain, slightly sloping, extends from Stora to Bona: this last town acquires much consequence from its situation, which is far superior to that of the ancient Hippona, and by the extraordinary fertility of the great plain which occupies a large district to the east of it, and is 36 miles in length, and from 12 to 15 in breadth, between the sea and the Little Atlas. This vast plain is, however, insalubrious at most seasons, and contains many lakes and marshes.

The towns of the upper plateau, between the great and little Atlas are, 1st. *Constantineh*, the capital; 2nd. *Milah*, a town with a population of 3000 to 4000, near the confluence of the Rummel and Tsaab, a river in which gold is found: it is fifteen miles north-west of Constantineh. The environs of Milah are extremely fertile, and produce in abundance, and of the finest quality, nearly all European fruits. Besides these there are the small towns of Setif, Tiffech, Bulle or Bal, and Kasbaite.

The majority of the tribes who inhabit the province of Constantineh are engaged in agriculture and rearing of cattle: several of them are numerous and powerful. The most distinguished are the Henmechas and the Nemenchas, who occupy the vast plains on the left bank of the Mejerda, a river which serves as a line of demarcation between the territories of Algiers and Tunis. It was with the aid of these two warlike tribes that the Algerines succeeded in wresting the province of Constantineh from the dominion of Tunis. They likewise rendered important service to the Algerine Janissaries in their last war against the Regency of Tunis.

The numerous rivers of this province flow almost wholly from south to north, and empty themselves into the Mediterranean. The Arabs give the name of Oued-el-Kébir, or Great River, to those which, descending from Mount Atlas, traverse the upper plateau, the Little Atlas in its lower points, and, finally, the marine plateau, before they discharge their waters into the sea. These are the Shellif, westward of Algiers; the Bougie, the

Rummel (formerly Ampsaga), which bathes the walls of Constantineh, and which, after traversing the Little Atlas to Gibel-Aouat, falls into the sea in the vast gulf comprehended between Gigel and the great promontory of Seba-rous (Seven Capes); the Seibuse (*Rubricatus flumen*), which, after a winding course, empties itself near the walls of Bona; and the Mejerda (*Baguedas flumen*), which waters the beautiful eastern plains of the province of Constantineh, and separate it from the territory of Tunis.

The smaller rivers which fall from the Little Atlas are likewise numerous. The most noted are the Mansurah, between Gigel and Bougie; the Zurah, westward of the promontory of the Seven Capes; the Zeama, eastward of the same promontory; the little river, which, falling into the Gulf of Stora, accompanies the Roman road which unites this port to the town of Constantineh; the Oued-Sabure, which flows into the eastern part of the Gulf of Stora; the Mafrag (*Armoniacus flumen*), which meanders through fertile plains, and falls into the Gulf of Bon; and, lastly, the Zaina, near the island of Tabarca.

This province was anciently traversed by numerous Roman roads, the remains of which may still be seen in many places. The principal extended along the coast as far as the Straits of Gibraltar; others, again, formed a line of communication between Bougie and Constantineh, Carthage, Stora, &c. These roads were in general good, and might, even in their present neglected state, be rendered passable, which has proved the case in those parts which have been frequented by the French troops from Bona to Constantineh and Stora.

The natural situation of the town of Constantineh renders its defence as easy as its assault is difficult, and makes it at the same time an excellent theatre for extensive military operations.

Strabo, in speaking of the fertility of Numidia, says, that "in the country of the Massæsilis (now the province of Constantineh) the soil frequently yields two crops in the year, and that they have two harvests. Wheat, of which the stalk is from seven to eight feet in height, and of the thickness of the little finger, yields in some places 240 per cent. It is not sown in the spring, for the grains which have fallen from the ear during harvest are sufficient for sowing." Pliny confirms these remarks, and adds, that "owing to the lightness of the soil, the surface of the ground is merely turned up with a light plough, that the harrow is never employed, and that the soil never requires enriching. The weight and quality of the grain are also remarkable." The Abbé Desfontaines, a celebrated botanist who visited Algiers in 1786 and 1787, places the corn of the environs of Constantineh in the first class. He obtained from 80 lbs. of grain 70 lbs. of pure flour, 4 lbs. mixed, and 6 lbs. of bran. The wheat of Mascara and Plemecen did not yield, from 70 lbs. of grain, more than 43½ lbs. of pure flour. Maize, sorgho, and millet grow in great abundance. They are sown in April, and ripen in August. Their leaves furnish excellent fodder in seasons of drought. Saffron, indigo, the opium poppy, tobacco, pistachio nuts, and European vegetables are cultivated with great success. The vine, too, thrives well, but the grapes are kept for raisins instead of being employed in the making of wine. The olive grows exceedingly well throughout the whole of Numidia. The mountains of the Little Atlas are covered with wild olives, which, without being grafted, yield excellent fruit. They are small, and contain but a small proportion of oil, but the natives prefer them infinitely to the cultivated olive. Many of the olives are naturally mild, and do not require maceration in brine before they are eaten.

The cotton-tree flourishes in Algiers; and the Arabian writer, Edrisi, states, that it was cultivated, even in his time, at Setif, a town which, like Constantineh, is situated on the upper plateau. The cotton obtained is,

however, of a very coarse quality. The Malacææ, in which tribe the cotton plant is included, attain to a great height in this province. The present commercial transactions of Constantineh are chiefly carried on with the Regency of Tunis.

The population of Constantineh and of Algiers, in general, is mainly composed of Arabs, Turks, Jews, Christians, and the Berbers, or Coubayes. These latter are the primitive population, and the language spoken by them is supposed to be the ancient Numidian. They are a sedentary and industrious people; and, being settled among the mountains, are more independent, brave, and warlike than the other Algeripes. As they are not characterised by distinct features or peculiar physical conformation, they are generally regarded as a mixture of the various races whose independent bravery of spirit has resisted the various attempts made upon this part of Africa. The Arabs, who conquered Algiers towards the end of the seventh century, form a great majority of the Algerine population. They are divided into two classes. Those who reside in and near towns are called Moors, while the nomadic tribes, who live in tents and are employed in agriculture and the rearing of cattle, go by the name of Bedouins.

The Turks, who have been masters of Algiers since the sixteenth century, have never amalgamated with the indigenous population. Such of their children as were born of a native mother were called Kul-oglus, and were not, except in very rare cases, allowed the privilege of entering the military service, the ranks being always filled up by recruits from Turkey. The Jews are hardly more numerous than the Turks and Kul-oglus, and have always been treated by the rulers of the land with the utmost contempt and cruelty; indignities, however, which they conceive to be amply counterbalanced by the acquisition of wealth. Some modern writers have estimated the population of Algiers at 1,870,000; but we have reason to conclude, from recent accurate statements, that it does not exceed the half—that is to say, 900,000, which may be distributed as follows:—

Moors and Arabian peasants	400,000
Bedouins	240,000
Berbers, or Coubayes	200,000
Jews	30,000
Turks and Kul-oglus	6,000
Europeans (not including the garrisons)	24,000
	<hr/>
	900,000

According to an approximate calculation, founded on numerous documents, the population of the province of Constantineh alone would be 120,000 Coubayes, 125,000 Moors, 100,000 Bedouin Arabs, 10,000 Jews, 3000 Turks and Kul-oglus, and 2000 Europeans: total, 360,000. This return is exclusive of the French troops.

[Compiled from a Memoir by General Baron Juchereau de St. Denys, read at a recent meeting of the Geographical Society of Paris.]

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

Further Correspondence from Colonel Napier relative to the Affair on the Guareña.

MR. EDITOR,—I feel reluctant to load your Journal, but I trust the few comments I am about to make on Captain Jebb's last communication will terminate my share in this controversy.

Captain Jebb writes in a confused manner. He says that the correspondence between me and Colonel Clowes "enables him to expose a few of my inaccuracies." Why not expose the *whole*, if they are inaccuracies? He confines himself to two, namely, my surprise that Colonel Clowes was not the public controversialist; and my charging him, Captain Jebb, with unfairness.

To express surprise is not an inaccuracy. Captain Jebb has given a reason why Colonel Clowes ceased to be the controversialist, and my surprise ceases; but this reason was certainly not "manifest" to me before Captain Jebb's letter appeared; nor is the force of it manifest to me now, seeing that Captain Jebb, as being one of the 3rd Dragoons, is so far in the same predicament as Colonel Clowes.

With respect to the second point, or inaccuracy, viz., that I said I had offered to insert the *whole* of Colonel Clowes' statement,—my first letter does not, rigorously speaking, bear that out; but it must be remembered that my assertion was not positive; it was qualified, as was natural, when trusting to memory, for the details of a letter written a year before, and in the midst of very severe illness. Yet, in spirit, the assertion was quite correct—inasmuch as I asked *permission* to make an abstract, and gave a reason for so doing, thereby implying that, if *permission* was not granted, the *whole* statement would be inserted. And this, my meaning, was placed beyond doubt in my second letter, wherein I offered to publish "all on both sides," leaving it to Colonel Clowes to decide whether the discussion should become public or not. I have, therefore, only to repeat that the question was not quite fairly put before the public in the first instance; that I have been, in my opinion, imprudently forced into an unnecessary discussion; and that I have said "no more than what has been confirmed even by Colonel Clowes and Sir John Elley,—viz.: the 3rd Dragoons were immediately driven back by the *fire of some infantry*."

Colonel Clowes says, a *brisk fire* from a division of infantry and artillery.

Colonel Brotherton says, a *desultory fire*.

Sir John Elley says, *overwhelmed* by the fire of a large body of infantry.

These three statements differ from one another, but they all accord with mine, and, notwithstanding Sir J. Elley's expressed opinion, I affirm that I drew no conclusion—passed no censure—recorded no reproach, implied or direct. I merely stated a fact which carried no discredit with it. For that fact I have given my authority; and really, when I find that the whole loss of the 3rd Dragoons, under this *overwhelming fire of artillery and infantry*, only amounted to eight men, killed and wounded, I must be excused if I still adhere to Colonel Brotherton's version of the affair, and conclude that the others were mistaken.

Captain Jebb, however, has latterly discovered an implied reproach in that passage of my work which immediately follows the one relating to the 3rd Dragoons, viz., "The fight waxed hot with the others, and many fell; but finally the French General, Carrier, was wounded and taken, and the French cavalry retired."

To find offence in this passage appears to me rather a morbid acuteness

on Captain Jebb's part; but I can assure him there is a misprint, the word *had* being omitted: "the fight *had* waxed hot,"—and this correction was made long since in an interleaved copy, which I keep to meet new editions.

With the rest of Captain Jebb's statement, and his authorities, I do not wish to meddle. I am entirely on the defensive, having only to justify the passage in my history. Yet I must observe that Sir John Elley's letters seem more adapted to display his particular and formal opinions upon cavalry warfare than to disprove anything I have written. Those opinions, delivered with such impressive solemnity, must prove very instructive to all young military men, if not to veterans, but their applicability to the question at issue is not apparent; and I presume still to think, his speculative and didactic opinions set apart, and the facts only looked to, that he has confirmed my statement.

I now, Mr. Editor, send you some farther testimony upon this matter; and, when Captain Jebb has exhausted his counter testimony, it will be for the public to judge. And if, as is most probable, the decision should be, like old Sir Roger de Coverly's "*that much may be said on both sides,*" it may still be thought that my second letter to Colonel Clowes was not injudicious.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant.

WILLIAM NAPIER, Colonel,

Cavalry Depot, 23rd April, 1838.

MY DEAR NAPIER,—I had hoped that enough had already been said to have terminated the discussion with the 3rd Dragoons.

I regret to find that it is not the case, particularly as I am forced to speak of myself, which is always unpleasant; but the last statement of Captain Jebb cannot remain unnoticed.

I must first observe upon the extraordinary attempt made in this statement to invalidate your authorities, by making me absent altogether from my regiment on the occasion in question, and by representing both the Major of Brigade and the Adjutant of the 14th as too busily employed in rallying the troops to have been able to observe the proceedings of the 3rd Dragoons.

This is a very summary way of getting rid of evidence.

Captain Jebb says—"The situation and circumstances in which these authorities (alluding to the forementioned) were, according to their own showing, at this time placed, are sufficient of themselves to throw a doubt on their accuracy; for Colonel Brotherton describes himself, at this juncture, as being engaged with his corps, which was suffering severely, and he is, by Captain Macarty, represented as *being lost to his regiment*. Baron Osten was also at this time, as mentioned by Colonel Brotherton, particularly distinguishing himself by his gallant efforts to rally, and Captain Macarty describes himself as generally engaged in the same duties."

That officers rallying dispersed troops, and looking, at the same time, most anxiously towards a fresh regiment seen advancing, *apparently* to their assistance, should be pronounced incompetent to speak as to the proceedings of such corps, when only within a short distance from them, is an inference that few will agree to. On the contrary, these officers would, under such circumstances, naturally watch and scrutinise the conduct of such advancing support with the more intense anxiety. Such was the case in the present instance, and the accuracy of their testimony cannot be doubted.

But the mode in which it is attempted to dispose of *my* evidence is still more singular. I am first represented by Colonel Clowes, in his letter of the 20th of May last to Colonel Napier, to have been absent altogether from my regiment on the day in question, and afterwards, when this is

found *not* to have been the case, I am described by Captain Jebb, through a palpable, but no doubt unintentional, misconstruction of Captain Macarty's evidence, to have been "lost to my regiment" on the occasion, and consequently incompetent to speak on the subject.

It must have been obvious enough that it was *after* the affair that Colonel Hervey, when lamenting to his Adjutant that the 3rd had not properly supported, observed upon the loss sustained by the 14th during the day, and mentioned me amongst the casualties, using the expression that I was "lost to the regiment;" and this is seized upon to convey the erroneous impression that I was not present during the affair.

Colonel Clowes and Captain Jebb are, however, both wrong. I never left my regiment on the day in question, until obliged to quit it at the close of the affair, when, on leaving the field, I beheld the 3rd Dragoons halted and formed up, passive spectators of our discomfiture. I am not, therefore, so incompetent to speak as to what occurred, as it is attempted to prove me.

I send you a letter, in corroboration of Captain Macarty's statement, from the officer who was posted on the left flank of the regiment at the time Captain Macarty describes Colonel Hervey to have gone in that direction in order to urge on the 3rd Dragoons. He also speaks to the period of my quitting the field.

Captain Jebb next says,—“that officers thus circumstanced and engaged” (meaning, I suppose, the Major of Brigade, the Adjutant of the 14th, and myself), “signifying by their calls and gestures their anxiety for speedy relief, should find fault with or consider the pace at which the 3rd Dragoons advanced to their support somewhat tardier than they wished, or that they should *mistake* the decrease of pace arising from the impediment of the broken and dispersed troops for a halt, is not to be wondered at.”

No doubt great allowance will be made, by military men in general, for some degree of impatience under such circumstances. The 14th Light Dragoons was re-forming at the time. It was not told off, and the enemy were still close in its front, threatening an immediate attack. It was natural enough, therefore, in such a situation, to feel impatient for the quicker advance of the 3rd Dragoons. But their slow pace was *not*, as Captain Jebb says, “mistaken for a halt,” as they did actually halt when within a few yards of the ground where the 14th were standing, as it were, at the mercy of the enemy; nor was one sabre crossed, or one helping hand lifted by the 3rd Dragoons to cover their formation, or assist them under such difficult circumstances.

As to the main point in the discussion, viz.: the cause of the 3rd Dragoons thus halting, and remaining stationary and inactive when urged to advance, Captain Jebb says that it is a mere surmise of mine, and “only according to my own idea of military tactics”—that I pronounced this sudden halt to have been “unwarrantable.” I must here observe that Captain Jebb has misquoted my words. I never used the word “unwarrantable,” but “unaccountable,” which is somewhat different.

It cannot, however, be said that I am singular in my opinion that the 3rd Dragoons ought to have advanced to the attack; as General Alten, Colonel Hervey, and the officer in command of the 3rd Dragoons himself, had the same idea of military tactics. Colonel Clowes says he intended to have charged on arriving at the ground. It must, therefore, have been evident that such was the right thing to have done.

Captain Jebb says that I am unsupported on this point by the evidence of Baron Osten, whose corroboration I called for; but if, from motives which seem not to have been duly appreciated, Baron Osten refrained from speaking plainer, he must now do so, to clear up this point, and I enclose another letter from that officer testifying the *strong disapprobation* General Alten expressed that the 3rd Dragoons did *not* advance.

Captain Jebb says—"It is not too much to presume that an experienced officer like General Alten would rather halt and prevent one regiment without support from being committed as his own two regiments at that moment were;" but the Adjutant of the 14th states that he heard Colonel Hervey "beg the 3rd Dragoons to attack, and that the 14th would support *in a few minutes*, as soon as the squadrons were told off."

Captain Jebb says that General Alten might, if he had thought proper, have ordered the 3rd Dragoons to have attacked; but General Alten could not at this time consider the 3rd under his command; nor were they in his brigade, as Sir John Elley states. They came up and went away independently.

Having gone through these points, Captain Jebb next remarks on the expression I applied to the fire of the infantry that caused the 3rd to retire, viz.—that it was "a desultory one;" and he cuts the matter very short by saying—"The testimony of Sir John Elley will at once settle this question. He says, in his letter of the 14th January, 1838, that the 3rd Dragoons were overwhelmed by the fire of a large body of infantry."

Now, however clear a perception of the affair Sir John Elley may be supposed to have had at a distance, it must be allowed that those actually *under* fire are far better judges of the seriousness of it, than those at a distance. It is from its effects, and not its noise, that it is to be judged.

Colonel Clowes says, that it was "the brisk fire of a division of the enemy's infantry and artillery which opened upon the 3rd Dragoons."

Sir John Elley says that "they were *overwhelmed* by the fire of a large body of infantry."

The loss sustained by the 3rd Dragoons on this occasion by this fire of the enemy does certainly not correspond with the above descriptions of it; and if the Gazette is good authority in such matters, Colonel Clowes and Captain Jebb have both overrated this loss by nearly one-third. But, after all, it was most trifling, when the numbers of a cavalry regiment in those days are taken into consideration; and the regiments actually engaged lost nearly ten times as much! The loss sustained by cavalry in the field from the fire of the enemy is anything but a test of its conduct; and the 3rd Dragoons would, perhaps, have lost even less than they did had they attacked the squadrons of the enemy, already shaken and crippled, as they were, by the charges they had previously sustained, instead of remaining stationary as they did.

I will only add, that it was evidently to the British infantry close at hand that the cavalry owed its safety, and not, as Sir John Elley opines, to "the bold countenance of the cavalry," that our infantry owed theirs. For the 27th and 40th Regiments, alone, drove back, by a brilliant charge, this very infantry which caused the 3rd Dragoons to retire.

To conclude, I wish it to be distinctly understood, that in this discussion I have never intended to claim any particular merit for my own corps. It was opposed to very superior numbers—its attacks were repulsed, and it suffered severely.

I leave it to others to pronounce between the discordant statements that have appeared, and to judge whether the 3rd Dragoons performed, on this occasion, those "*brilliant services*" which are claimed for them, or whether the details, which have been forced into publicity, have proved more favourable than your original statement, which was certainly never intended to give offence, but, on the contrary, expressly devised to avoid it.

I remain, my dear Napier, yours sincerely,

T. W. BROTHERTON.

To Colonel Wm. Napier, C.B., &c. &c. &c.

Carden Park, near Chester, April 17, 1838.

MY DEAR BROTHERTON,—In answer to your letter of the 6th instant, I can only repeat, on the contested point, whether or not General Victor

Alten intended to halt the 3rd Dragoons at the affair on the Guareña, that no order to that effect ever passed through me as his Brigade Major. I never heard of it, and it is completely at variance with all I recollect (and they made a deep impression on me at the time) of the different conversations I had with General Alten on the subject. According to these recollections, I will now only add, *that he expressed strongly his disapprobation at the 3rd Dragoons not advancing.*

The 3rd Dragoons, belonging to a different Brigade, were *not* under the immediate orders of General Alten.

I regret extremely being drawn into this controversy, but, being appealed to, I feel in honour bound to state what I know and believe to be the truth.

Yours ever sincerely,

W. OSTEN, Lieut.-Col.

MY DEAR BROTHERTON,—My attention having been accidentally called to this unpleasant discussion, relative to the affair of the Guareña, and in which you have taken a part, I think it but justice to you, in as far as I am able to corroborate your statement, to give you in as few words as possible all that came within my observation, and of which I have a perfect recollection. I was at the time a Subaltern in the 14th Dragoons, and placed on the extreme left of the regiment, when General Alten came up to Colonel Hervey, who was close to us rallying the men. I heard them both at this time express dissatisfaction that the 3rd Dragoons did not move up quicker to the attack. Immediately after, as soon as the regiment was formed, but before it could be told off, Colonel Hervey came round the flank, as described by the Adjutant, Lieutenant Macarty, and repeatedly ordered the trumpeter who attended him to sound the trot, which was not noticed by the 3rd Dragoons. I saw nothing between them and us to impede their progress, and I think they were quite near enough to hear us and to see the gestures we made to induce them to hasten to our assistance at that critical moment, when we were but just formed, after being harassed and crippled by repeated charges on the enemy, who were still close to us, and threatened us with an immediate attack. Colonel Hervey, failing in this endeavour to make the 3rd quicken their pace, returned to the front of the regiment, expressing his dissatisfaction in strong terms, and the regiment remained in their position until the enemy retired.

Then, as to your not having been present at this affair, I am able to say, with a perfect recollection of the fact, as it fell to my lot to carry the report from you to Colonel Hervey of your being wounded and obliged to leave the field, that this did not occur until the close of the affair, and after the last charge we made on the enemy.

Very truly yours,

HENRY WHITE,

Colonel, Royal Longford Militia,

late Lieutenant 14th Light Dragoons.

To Colonel Brotherton, C.B., &c. &c.

The Busaco Controversy.

MR. EDITOR,—Before taking leave of Sir John Cameron, I beg permission to submit to your readers the following letter from Colonel Lightfoot, to which I have formerly had occasion to allude, and which bears materially on the subject of dispute between Sir John and myself.

After some preliminary remarks, Colonel Lightfoot says—"To come to the immediate subject of your letter—namely, the real details of the battle as far as concerns the right brigade of the third division—first, I would observe that your sketch of the ground is on too small a scale to afford a correct idea of the position occupied by the 88th and the four companies of the 45th, at least of that part of it occupied by the latter. That part gave me a clear, uninterrupted, view of the whole face of the position to

our right, to beyond the road of St. Antonio de Cantaro, but entirely excluded me from any view of the Coimbra side of it, the rocks on the summit of the hill concealing from me everything behind them. Indeed, my position was like the flank of a bastion, with relation to the general position on the right; I therefore cannot speak of any operations or movements of troops on the line of communication, not being in a situation to see them. The crest of the hill was here free from rocks for a space more than sufficient for the deployment of the wing of a battalion, and the ascent to it afforded peculiar facilities. On my left was a considerable cluster of rocks, forming a projecting point, from which the general line or direction of the position was continued to the left. Between this cluster of rocks and the foot of the high ridge occupied by the 5th Regiment and left brigade, there was another space similar to that on which I was placed, and here stood the 88th Regiment, with their right to this projecting cluster of rocks.

"Premising thus much, I proceed to observe that, when Major Gwynne marched up his detachment to the position, the enemy, under favour of the fog, had already arrived to near the top of the hill; that the instant the leading section of the detachment appeared on the brow of it, a fire was poured into them from a body of tirailleurs, so close, that it resembled rather the fire of a close battalion.

"Gwynne being wounded by this first fire, I brought the remainder of the companies into position. Upon this point the whole fire of the enemy seemed to be concentrated, and which we endeavoured to return with all the energy we were masters of, but our force was too insignificant to contend with the mass opposed to us.

"The fire which marked the line of the enemy continued to advance, and whilst the companies, exposed from their feet upwards, on the brow of the hill, received every shot into them, and fell so fast it seemed a perfect massacre, their fire was quite insufficient to check their opponents.

"Their line steadily advanced, and we found ourselves at length involved in the smoke of each other's muskets at the distance of a few paces only, unable to see beyond the muzzles of them. My eye now caught the view of the enemy on the top of the projecting rocks, upon which my left rested, and in the act of firing down on my party (now greatly reduced) from thence. This compelled me to fall back a few paces; when now I perceived the 8th Portuguese, or a wing of them, marching into position on my right, in sections; and some tirailleurs having at the same moment gained possession of the rocks in front of them, the first section of the Portuguese Grenadiers and they came suddenly and unexpectedly into collision, bayonet to bayonet. But the enemy came no further: for now the 88th charged round the rocks on their right into the flank of the enemy's column on the slope of the hill, and drove them precipitately down it. The four companies of the 45th, and, I believe, the 8th Portuguese, joined in the pursuit as far as midway down the hill, and thus terminated the attack.

"The enemy's column did not, therefore, at this point, gain the summit of the hill; nor did I see the column at all—it was effectually concealed from me by the smoke of the tirailleurs rising on the slope of the hill; nor were the 8th Portuguese broken at this point—they, with the exception of the leading section, were no otherwise engaged than in the pursuit, for they arrived only at the instant of the defeat of the column by the 88th. Thus the honour of the charge belongs to the 88th alone: that of the defence, against one of the severest attacks ever sustained by a mere handful of men, to the 45th.

"Engaged as I was at this point, it cannot be supposed that I could know anything of the attack on the right; but I am informed by an officer of the 74th Regiment, residing here, that that attack was repulsed before it had ascended half way up the hill, by the light companies, and those of

the 60th, attached to the division, together with one or two regiments of Portuguese, all under the command of Colonel Williams, of the 60th; the 74th and a Portuguese regiment being formed at the time on the slope of the hill, in front of Arentchild's guns, in the Pass of St. Antonio, Arentchild firing over their heads. Four companies, also, of the 45th (another having been detached to support the light troops) remained in the neighbourhood of the pass, in support, and quite unengaged.

"There remains, therefore, only the central attack, which occurred, I think, about mid-day. I happen to be able to speak rather confidently of this attack, because I was close on its flank—that is, near enough to pour a fire, by no means ineffectual, into the column as it drew near the top of the hill; for, Colonel Meade having come from the right to inquire into the extent of my loss, I had requested permission from him to carry down the remainder of the four companies for the purpose of flanking the column in its ascent, the opportunity appearing to me very inviting. The request, perhaps, indicated more zeal than discretion; but be that as it may, away I went, and, placing myself on the brow of a hollow that ran between the column and me, I opened a fire upon it, the men kneeling, and concealing themselves among the bushes. Meanwhile the column appeared to be too much occupied in pushing the light troops before them in front to take much notice of us. Presently I saw the light troops driven over the ridge, and the next moment that ridge was crowned by the tirailleurs firing vigorously from it; when suddenly, without any reason apparent to me, the tirailleurs abandoned the ridge, poured down on the column, the column went to the right about, and both urged their course precipitately down the hill.

"When I subsequently inquired into the circumstances from those who had been engaged, I learned that, the light troops having been driven over the ridge in some confusion, Major Smith, of the 45th, had been killed in leading them back to the charge by a shot from the rocks; that the fifth division, coming up at double-quick at the moment, had charged the enemy in the rocks, and that they, seeing so great a reinforcement, had fled without further resistance,—using that prudent discretion for which French troops are so remarkable; and, communicating the same prudent impulse to the column, they both descended the hill together with extraordinary rapidity.

"That this was the fact is confessed, if I mistake not, by Massena, who, I rather think, accounts for the failure of this attack by the arrival at the moment of General Hill in the position: not that he speaks of any attack he sustained from General Hill, but merely of his arrival, which presented such a disparity of force as induced the abandonment of its object by the column.

"Thus the road to Coimbra was never in possession of the enemy, as Colonel Waller seems to have believed it to have been; and as to the formation of a column on the summit, and wheeling to its right to sweep the ridge, it is the first time I have heard of it. Some individual tirailleurs may possibly have proceeded beyond the rocks, and may have been killed on the Coimbra side—but very few, I imagine.

"There must have been at least two, if not more, regiments of tirailleurs preceding the column, acting, also, be it remembered, in as close order as the ascent and nature of the ground would permit—so that, when they gained possession of the ridge, they might have been mistaken by Colonel Cameron for close battalions formed there: indeed, though we are accustomed to say that this was an attack in column preceded by tirailleurs, yet it might, perhaps, be more correct to say that it was an attack in line, supported by columns.

"St. Helier's, March, 1837."

It can scarcely be necessary for me, Mr. Editor, to point out at length the complete corroboration of my views, which every man, who has not

only not prejudged the question or questions in dispute, but whose prejudices are not so firmly fixed as to be beyond the power of evidence to remove them, must find in Colonel Lightfoot's plain and lucid statements. That it will have any effect in enlightening Sir John Cameron on the subject is a consummation most devoutly to be wished, but one which I fear is scarcely to be looked for.

In concluding my last observations—which I had really hoped were to be the last, in both meanings of the word—I think I expressed an opinion that no further explanation I could offer could prove satisfactory to Sir John Cameron. What has since fallen from his pen has only tended to confirm me in that opinion.

When Sir John is so blind as not to see the utter discrepancy between his own premises and conclusions, it would be idle to expect that he should follow the reasonings of others, so as to arrive at a conviction he is averse to reach. He is surprised that I should think of retorting the charge upon himself, and can see nothing discourteous in anything which he has addressed to me. I do say still that the manner in which he alluded to my being only a Subaltern at the Battle of Busaco, and the contempt with which, as such, he treated my opinion, was discourteous in a high degree. If Sir John in this does not appear discourteous, what does he think of charging me as he did (in the Number of your Journal of May, 1837) with contriving a plan of the ground merely for "the purpose of suiting my own views?" That the scale is limited, as Colonel Lightfoot observes, I freely admit, but it is certainly correct as far as the space allows. Between falsifying plans and wilfully misstating facts, I call myself see no difference, and perhaps Sir John does me the favour to suppose I have done both.

To Sir John Cameron I have not the honour of being known, and I should have treated the imputation with the silence, as I do with the feelings, which it merits, were it not for the extraordinary attempt Sir John has made to fix the charge of discourtesy on myself. I do him the justice, however, to believe that he did not really see the force or bearing of the language he employed in this respect, more especially as, with regard to the main point of the controversy between us, he uses language which conveys to the minds of others a meaning diametrically opposite to what he tells you he intended to convey. Sir John says—"It will be believed that I in no degree intended to impeach the talents or conduct of Sir Thomas Picton, for whom I always entertained the highest respect."

With this eulogium on the military talents of Sir Thomas Picton, Sir John considers it in no way inconsistent to say that at the Battle of Busaco he left the right flank of his division exposed. This assertion Sir John characterises as a very "natural remark,"—by which it would appear he means a very harmless, innocent expression, which, if it has any meaning at all, bears no way unfavourably on Picton's merits as a General.

Now, Sir, what is the real purport of this "very natural," very harmless, very innocent expression, as explained not only by the meaning of the words, but by the commentaries of General Cameron, Colonel Waller, and others? It is, that at the battle of Busaco Sir Thomas Picton left his right exposed; that, in consequence of his doing so, the flank of the division was actually turned by the enemy, who, owing to his stupidity and oversight, had established themselves on the ridge ready to sweep the summit of the Sierra; that from this dilemma his division was saved by no valour or exertion on their part, and by no discovery or reparation of his error upon his, but by the promptitude, the skill, and bravery of others. It is maintained that, "if assistance, and British assistance too, had not come to his support, he would have cut a very different figure in 'The Gazette' to what he did that day." In other words, but not in plainer English, Sir Thomas Picton, at the battle of Busaco, showed an ignorance, an unskilfulness, a total absolute incapacity as a General, in doing that which, but that the

consequences of his incompetency were obviated by others, had ruined the prospects of the Allied Army, so far as the gaining of a battle at that moment was of any consequence to the British arms, and the moment was indeed a critical one, which would have sent them back upon Lisbon, if not a broken and dishonoured, at least a discomfited and disheartened mass, leaving General Picton, as his just reward, to be tried and broke by a court-martial at the time, consigning him to a life of privacy and disgrace, and his memory to infamy, so long as the history of his country should be read. Such, Sir, is the scope of Sir John Cameron's "very natural" remark, such, when spoken out, the cruel, the monstrous accusation brought by him and others against Picton's memory, and which by some strange obliquity of mental vision, for which I cannot account, Sir John cannot see to be any way calculated to impeach his talents and conduct as a commander; quite consistent with having "always entertained for him the highest respect."

In the endeavour I have made to shield the memory of Picton from unmerited obloquy, I find it again necessary to remind Sir John that the rank of either of us at the time of the battle has little, I might say nothing, to do with the points at issue. The question to be considered is, whether I, then a Subaltern, had not things passing under my own observation, and have not obtained evidence, as to what was transacted in localities where I was not personally present from those who were, which have proved himself (then a Lieutenant-Colonel), and others of equal rank, entirely in the wrong, in the representations they have given of the main features of the battle upon that portion of the line? In doing this, which I maintain I have done, I may again say, to the satisfaction of every unprejudiced mind, I beg leave again to remind Sir John Cameron, of what he finds convenient to forget, that I referred to the infinitely greater loss of the third division, not as the *sole*, but as a *corroborative* proof of what I had established by other evidence, that the brunt of the day fell on that division, and not upon the fifth. Sir John in the first place suggested, very invidiously, as I conceive, that this loss might be accounted for by the troops not being, what he terms, properly brought up to their work—(I leave him all the credit of the phrase)—thereby bringing in the officers of the brigade for a share of the incompetency attaching to their chief. Now he shifts his ground, and, having first cried laud to General Napier, sings out a stave of triumph to himself, as having proved, by the assistance of the former's letter, that the heavy loss sustained by M'Kinnon's brigade "was the unfortunate, though not unusual result, of a musket combat at sixty yards, in this case with a French column, which was enabled by circumstances to establish itself in a position decidedly to their advantage, they having crowned the height, and being above the British."

I beg leave to remind Sir John Cameron of a very homely but very useful proverb, the purport of which is, that he should neither congratulate himself nor thank his supposed deliverer, until he is sure that he is fairly out of the difficulty into which he has brought himself. General Napier is here completely mistaken in supposing that the 88th had a musket combat at sixty yards' distance. They were the four companies of the 45th who fought so gallantly as described by him, and as referred to in Colonel Lightfoot's letter, of whose conduct and that of the gallant men he commanded, I agree with the opinion expressed by General Wallace in a letter to myself, it is impossible to speak in terms too high. No body of the enemy, I beg to assure General Napier, were above the 88th or 45th, except that portion which had gained possession of the rocks. Of this fact even Sir John Cameron may allow me to be competent to speak, and further, that the 88th never fired a shot till they closed with the enemy. The gallantry with which both regiments fought may still, I think, account for the loss they sustained, without the ingenious, certainly not ingenuous, supposition which Sir John's "military experience" enables him to suggest, that they

might have been brought badly up to their work. In this point of view General Napier's letter becomes a valuable auxiliary in corroborating my opinion as to the cause of the astonishing difference in the loss of the two divisions, adding to the proof that there was much hard fighting to account for the greatness of loss the third sustained.

Without any desire unnecessarily to disparage the services of the fifth, justice to the former compels me to express the wish that Sir John Cameron, or any one else of "military experience," in their endeavour to transfer the credit of one division to the other, would account in a manner equally satisfactory for the fifth being enabled to attack and dislodge a body of the enemy, amounting, as Sir John now informs us, to *five thousand* of their best troops, "established on the summit of a ridge, ensconced in rocks, with ground which gave them all advantage, with the trifling loss to themselves of *two* officers and *forty* men." Far be it from me to say that such things cannot be, but I may be excused for saying that, during the late war, such apparent abandonment of their usual energy, if not their usual courage, on the part of the enemy, was a thing that did not come within the every-day experience of most of their opponents.

In exposing the futility of the attempts made to transfer the credit from General Picton and the third division to General Leith and the fifth—for, with all due deference to Sir John Cameron, the credit which himself and his coadjutors would leave the third, in establishing their position, is just of as much high value as Sir John's "high respect for the talents and conduct of General Picton" would amount to—I have to apologise to your readers for travelling so often over the same ground: this, however, I am compelled to do, from the obstinacy with which Sir John returns to positions whence he had been fairly driven, and which every one must see to be untenable, but himself; restating errors that have been previously exposed, and repeating inferences thrice refuted. At the risk, therefore, of incurring the charge of iteration, with an epithet which most of your readers may think ought to be expressed as well as understood, I return, once for all, to the points that must be established before Sir John Cameron and the others can make good their case. Their premises are these:—That General Picton left his right flank exposed; that taking advantage of his, not to say oversight, but utter imbecility, the enemy had actually turned his right, and were attacking his troops in flank, who, unable to maintain the struggle at this disadvantage, were on the point of being beaten, when "British assistance," that is General Leith and the fifth division, came up most opportunely to save them from defeat and their General from disgrace.

Now, Sir, to make good these premises, and to establish this conclusion, let me bring back the attention of your readers to two things that must be proved—namely, that Leith's attack was simultaneously with the main struggle that took place between the third division and the enemy; and secondly, that the point where Leith and his column did meet the latter was somewhere to Picton's right, that is, at or near the point where the enemy are supposed to have outflanked his troops.

Now, with regard to the latter, it can be proved almost to mathematical demonstration that it was not only, as I have stated, at a point intermediate between Picton's right and left, but far too much towards the latter to leave it* possible to believe that the body he there met was one which

* The distance from the St. Antonio pass to the bottom of the rise, of that part of the ridge on which the left brigade was stationed, is, by the plan of the ground made at the time by the late Major Sturgeon, of the Staff Corps, an able and gallant officer, about three-quarters of a mile, from which, if 300 yards is taken, the distance from the rise to the spot where the 88th and 45th fought, will, from the latter to the pass, leave 900 yards. Now Leith's three British regiments, independent of the Lusitanian Legion left on the pass, as stated by Colonel Cameron, was, by the returns of the Army at the time, above 1600 men, which would occupy a front of 500 yards. Consequently, their rear, when taking ground to the left, having passed the road of

had moved along the ridge to the place of contact, after turning Picton's right, instead of being, as it proved by direct and positive testimony, a body that had ascended the hill, in direction of the point where it was met and repulsed by him.

So far again from this attack of theirs being simultaneous with the main struggle of the third, I have proved by irrefragable testimony that the one was at the commencement, the other at the very end of the battle. The main contest of the third took place early in the morning, and was all over hours before Leith's affair took place. Of the latter I was myself a quiet spectator from the position I occupied on the front of the Sierra, and at which time nearly the whole of the third were in a quiescent state, their co-operation being no way required, on account of the enemy having, as Colonel Lightfoot justly observes, a mere momentary possession of the height.

While it is thus established by evidence that the supposed arduous struggle in which the third were engaged at the time of Leith's approach, and rendering his assistance so critical for their rescue, is a mere phantom of an excited imagination on the part of Colonel Waller and the others, what becomes of the whole case which they have laid, when we find the foundation on which they rest it, namely, the exposure and turning of Picton's right, completely overthrown by evidence which shows that it never was in the least danger? The troops of his right, consisting of the 74th British, Arentchild's guns, with other portions of British and Portuguese, never were driven from their ground as stated, while, as was well known to General Picton, ample support was at hand, Generals Hill's and Leith's divisions on one flank, and Lightburn's brigade on the other. With regard to the latter, it is worth remarking, as showing how, through extreme anxiety to make a case, the wish will sometimes become father to the thought. Colonel Waller, while magnifying the importance of Leith's co-operation, represents Lightburn's brigade as repeatedly charging the enemy, and being charged by them; while the truth is known to many, and as stated by Major General the Honourable Sir Henry King, in the pages of the Journal, that not a man of that brigade was called into action, with the exception of the light company of the 5th Foot, under, Mr. Editor, your own command.

To follow Sir John Cameron step by step, and to expose the mistakes he falls into as to facts, and the fallacy of the inferences he draws, is a thing as easy in itself as the repetition of it, time after time, becomes irksome to your readers as well as to myself. So far, therefore, as I can at present anticipate any reason for continuing the discussion, I here take leave of the subject, satisfied that the evidence I have adduced has convinced every impartial person that Sir John Cameron, Colonel Waller, and others, have misapprehended, and, as a necessary consequence, have misrepresented, some of the leading features of the battle in the information they have furnished Colonel Napier. I have proved that the charge brought against Picton, no longer able to defend himself, is not more injurious to his memory than it is uncalled for and unjust. I have proved that General Picton did not leave his right exposed, and that the state of things represented as being the consequence of that exposure is as purely imaginary as an Arabian tale. I have proved, that the main struggle of the 3rd began and ended while Leith and his division were to the right of the pass, and behind the hog-backed ridge of the Sierra. I have proved that at the time of Leith's approach to the front of the Sierra the 3rd Division had scarcely a man engaged—that, with the exception of the body he there attacked, not an enemy was on the heights but as a prisoner

St. Antonio, the 9th, the leading regiment, must have passed the centre of Picton's battle line, which agrees perfectly with the sketch I formerly gave in the Journal, and which I did not "construe to suit purposes of my own to disparage the services of the fifth division."

of war; while so brief was the occupation of them by that body, with the slight exception frequently stated, no portion of the third had cause, or time and opportunity, to join in the affair.

Whatever, therefore, may have been the spirit with which this repulse was made, so easily, as well as speedily, was it accomplished, as proved, among other evidence, by their trivial loss, and so completely were the third at liberty, and so perfectly had they the power to meet and to repel this last attack unaided, that I do maintain, as I have proved, the importance of Leith's assistance to be exaggerated in a degree that is utterly absurd.

In a word, Mr. Editor, whether it be done by insinuations "of others wearing laurels which the 5th are entitled to," by incidental remarks, it may be very "naturally" made, but the invidious tendency of which I have, as naturally as I trust I have triumphantly, exposed—or whether it be by an open assertion of their right to wear them—I do maintain that the attempt now made to transfer to General Leith and his division the laurels which General Picton and the 3rd there gained, should be considered, and most deservedly, as a signal failure. The evidence adduced has, I feel confident, sufficed to prove that, at the battle of *Bugoco*, as fortune called on them to bear the chief brunt of the enemy's attacks upon their portion of the allied line, so did they acquit themselves in their wonted gallant manner: that the credit, not merely of having maintained unsullied, but out of all comparison, of having there and then done most to add to the glory of the British arms, is still, and must continue, where, until the attempts in question, that is for more than twenty years, it had remained unchallenged, with SIR THOMAS PICTON and the THIRD DIVISION.

WILLIAM MACKIE, late Major, 88th Regt.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PRINCIPAL PORTS AND STATIONS.

Portsmouth, April 20, 1838.

MR. EDITOR,—Two battalions of the Foot Guards have gone from hence to Quebec during the month of April; viz.:—the Second Battalion of the Grenadier Guards, commanded by Colonel Grant; and the Second Battalion of the Coldstream Guards, commanded by Colonel Shawe. They were about ten days or a fortnight at Winchester while the ships were getting ready, and then marched by divisions to the Victualling-yard at Gosport, whence they were conveyed in flat boats and sailing craft to their respective ships. The Grenadiers went in the *Inconstant* frigate and *Apollo* troop-ship, and the Coldstream in the *Edinburgh* ship-of-the-line and *Athol* troop-ship. The *Edinburgh* came from Lisbon for the purpose, and, having landed her lower-deck guns, had good accommodation for upwards of 500; the rest had plenty of space in the *Athol*. About 600 of the Grenadiers, with a proportion of their wives and children, went in the *Apollo*; the *Inconstant* took nearly 300 men, women, and children, exclusive of her crew. Major-General Sir James Macdonell, who commands the brigade, was to have gone out in the *Hastings* with Lord Durham and his suite, but afterwards went in the *Edinburgh*. The *Hastings* came from Sheerness last week, and immediate preparations were made for his Lordship's reception; and she is in every respect ready, her crew being completed from the ships in ordinary. It is said the cabins are very well arranged under the direction and plan of Mr. Fincham, the Master Shipwright of Sheerness Dockyard, but no person has been permitted to see them except the officers of the ship, and a select few. About fifty of the Royal Corps of Engineers, and the band of the 71st Regiment, are on board, and it is expected that Lord Durham and Staff will be down to-

morrow, and sail on Sunday or Monday. The *Dee* steam-frigate, Captain Sherer, is to accompany the *Hastings*, and, if requisite, tow her up the *St. Lawrence*, should there be any impediment to prevent her sailing up; but, being short of men, cannot leave the port for a few days. Two transports, the *Stakesby* and *Arab*, take out some baggage, and the horses of Lord Durham and of the officers of the Guards; and should the *Madagascar* and *Andromache* be ready in time, it is probable they will be filled with troops, and form part of the squadron, to assume an imposing appearance. Very little was seen here of the Foot Guards, as they were inspected by the Major-General of the district, Sir Thomas M'Mahon, at Winchester, and, as before stated, when the vessels were in every respect ready, they were marched by divisions to Gosport, and taken on board from that town: they appeared in very good order, and most effective for service. The *Athol's* party put to sea on the 14th, but it blew so hard against her that she was compelled to return next day and anchor in *St. Helen's Roads*, thus giving them a little seasoning before getting into the Atlantic. All the ships had, however, most excellent accommodation and stowage, and there is little doubt in forty-eight hours the men would get their sea-legs, and be thoroughly used to a ship.

There has been considerable bustle in the port since my last communication, and I will, therefore, do my best to give you an account of what has been going on. The *Bellerophon*, 80., *Madagascar*, 46, *Orestes*, 18, and *Camelion*, 10, in addition to the *Edinburgh*, have arrived from foreign stations; and the *Hastings*, 74, *Dec* and *Tartarus*, steamers, and *Charybdis*, brigantine, from being fitted at the eastern ports.

The *Bellerophon*, as most of your readers may have heard, was, with the *Russell*, *Talavera*, and *Jupiter*, caught in a very heavy storm in the Bay of Gibraltar, about two months ago, and nearly experienced shipwreck: if it had not been for the great exertions of her officers and a good working crew, more serious damage would have occurred than has been found to be the case. She had the 73rd Regiment on board only two days before the gale came on, and, with her own ship's company, mustered nearly 1300 souls. Luckily the troops were landed, and thus out of the way and in safety. The *Bellerophon* was without lower-deck guns at the time, it being intended that she should return to Malta; but having struck on the rocks once or twice in the hurricane, and making from eight to ten inches water an hour, it was deemed most proper to order her to England to be inspected and repaired, and she arrived at Spithead from Gibraltar on the 9th instant, and on the following day went in harbour. She is now in dock, and appears not to have met with so much injury as was expected. There is about twenty-five feet of her false keel carried away, the heel of her rudder damaged, some copper rubbed off the starboard side, and the planking under it started, which has caused the principal leak, although the shaking she has had will cause a general caulking to be requisite. Her foremast is rotten, and has been taken out; the one she had when first fitted being sprung in a heavy gale of wind last year, the present one was issued in its place. Notwithstanding these defects, the *Bellerophon* will be got ready for service next week, as prodigious exertions are making to re-equip her, and when the next spring-tides come on she will be undocked and hauled out alongside her hulk. Captain Jackson, being appointed Superintendent of Pembroke Dockyard, has quitted her, and resigned the command to Captain C. J. Austen (thus setting at rest the report that all the Captains of 1807 are to be promoted to their flags at the Coronation, as it does not appear probable that Captain Jackson would be removed to a dockyard for only a couple of months, if such a step was in agitation). The future destination of the *Bellerophon* is not yet known, but it is surmised she will be sent to America with troops, and then go to Malta to pick up her guns.

The *Madagascar* came to Spithead on the 10th instant, from Jamaica,

after a long passage, having left that island on the 18th February. Since she quitted England she has been so unfortunate as twice or thrice to get a-ground; and, on the last occasion, on an unknown coral reef in the Gulf of Mexico, she was compelled to throw some of her guns over-board, all of which she did not recover. These circumstances, and the serious illness of her Captain, Sir John Peyton, induced the Admiralty to order her to England to be docked and repaired; and, within thirty-six hours of her arrival at Spithead, she had her powder removed, sailed in harbour, and was taken in dock. Her damages under water are less than those of the *Bellerophon*, some of the copper of the false keel only being rubbed off, and a general caulking required. Her main and mizen masts are to be taken out, and new ones put in, the former being sprung and fished, and the latter rotten. Orders are in the dockyard to get her ready with all expedition; but, as new masts are to be made, she will not be fit for service before the *Bellerophon*. Her destination is Canada, with troops, and she is to take out between 300 and 400 of different regiments (two companies of the 24th Regiment are in garrison ready for embarkation); but whether she will resume her station in the West Indies or not is not determined; at all events, she will only be a private ship, as Sir John Peyton's health entirely prevents his going to sea again for some time, and he has resigned the command to Captain P. P. Wallis: in fact, before the *Madagascar* arrived, Captain Peter John Douglas, late in command of H.M.S. *Melville*, was appointed Commodore at Jamaica, and has gone thither in the *Tartarus* steamer, with instructions to hoist a broad pendant on board the *Magnificent*, and take upon him the superintendence of the dockyard and shipping. The *Madagascar*, as before stated, left Jamaica on the 18th February. Previous to quitting the island, the merchants addressed the following gratifying letter to the Commodore, expressive of their opinion of his conduct while on the station, and to which he returned a suitable reply:—

“ Kingston, Feb. 15, 1838.

“ SIR,—We, the undersigned merchants of Kingston, having learned, with much regret, your approaching departure from this station, cannot allow you to do so without expressing our obligations for the urbanity and attention you have shown on all occasions, and the interest you have invariably taken in all matters connected with the mercantile prosperity of this community. At the same time, we beg to offer our heartfelt wishes for your speedy restoration to health, and that every happiness may always attend you.

“ We have the honour, &c.”

Signed by the Mayor of Kingston, and a considerable number of the principal merchants.

The *Madagascar* left at Jamaica H.M. ships *Seringapatam*, *Crocodile*, *Wanderer*, *Snake*, *Ringdove*, *Magnificent*, *Flamer*, and *Hornet*. She left in company with the *Felix*, Portuguese slave schooner, on her passage to Sierra Leone for adjudication, having been boarded by the *Flamer* on the south coast of Porto Rico, and brought off Jamaica, where she was taken by the *Madagascar*, with 326 slaves on board. The latter had been landed at Kingston. The squadron were all very healthy. H.M.S. *Cornwallis*, 74, with the flag of the Commander-in-Chief, Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Charles Paget, was daily expected at Jamaica to inspect the squadron, and afterwards visit the islands. The *Comus* had gone to Carthagená with a mail. On the 25th February the *Madagascar* fell in with the *Sappho* returning from San Domingo, where she had been stationed during a negotiation with the Haytians and the French Government relative to some pecuniary demands made by the latter, and which had been amicably settled, the Haytians engaging to pay upwards of sixty millions of francs by instalments, but gaining plenty of time for doing so, as the whole is not to be paid until the year 1867. The *Madagascar*

communicated with Crooked Island on the 4th March, and exchanged numbers off there on that day with H.M. sloop *Serpent*, cruising. H.M. sloop *Nimrod* left Port Royal on the 7th February, with stores for the Romney slave-depôt, stationed at the Havannah. The *Rainbow*, 28, was daily expected at Jamaica with Government money from Vera Cruz, and would afterwards be ordered home to be paid off. The commander of the Carron steamer, Lieut. Owen, had died at sick-quarters at Antigua; and, until the Admiral had determined upon a successor in the command, Lieut. M. Thomas of the *Seringapatam* was put in charge. The *Madagascar*, as before mentioned, has but few defects, and will be ready for sea very shortly.

The *Orestes*, 18, having been upwards of three years on the Mediterranean station, has come home to be paid off, which was done on Wednesday. She came to England last from Gibraltar, in charge of Commander Holt, who exchanged from the *Asia* with Commander Newell. Her services have been latterly at Gibraltar and off the south coast of Spain. When the people of the Dockyard have less work on hand she will be taken in dock and refitted for service.

The *Camelion*, 10 gun brig, has been employed on the Lisbon station: she having also been upwards of three years in commission was ordered home to be paid off, which was done on Saturday.

The *Modeste*, corvette, constructed by Rear Admiral the Hon. George Elliot, and *Lily*, 16, constructed by the present Surveyor, have again been sent out on another trial-cruise to ascertain their respective qualifications. The *Modeste* was in harbour for some days to alter her stowage and trim, and on Wednesday they went to sea, accompanied by the *Pantaloön* brig, the tender to the Royal George yacht, which doubtless will beat them both on every point after this cruise the *Lily* is to go to South America, and the *Modeste* to the Cape of Good Hope.

Two small vessels have been commissioned last week, viz., the *Termagant*, a brigantine, similar to the *Brisk*, and intended for the coast of Africa, and the *Arrow*, converted from a cutter to a two-masted vessel, and to be employed on the South American station in completing the survey of the Falkland Islands. They are Lieutenants' commands. Lieutenant W. J. Williams has the *Termagant*, and Lieutenant B. J. Sullivan the *Arrow*.

The *Herald* and *Actæon*, post-ships, will shortly be reported ready for commission, but little or nothing is doing to them, as the mechanics of the Dockyard are put on the *Bellerophon* and *Madagascar* to hasten their refit. Even at the Victualling Department at Gosport, the men are employed extra time in the baking-house; they are making seven tons of biscuit a-day.

In addition to the *Bellerophon* and *Madagascar* in dock under repair, there are the following:—Royal George, yacht, preparing for her Majesty, should she think fit to cruise during the summer; she has been under repair some time, for her defects have proved more extensive than were imagined. *Revenge*, 74, under repair. *Warspite*, 74, at one time intended to be cut down to a fourth-rate, but now all the work on her is stopped, as she does not prove very sound. *Belvidera*, 42, to be converted into a coal-depôt.

It is intended for the future to furnish all ships of the line with one or two pieces of ordnance to carry shells. A few days ago Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Adam, one of the members of the Board of Admiralty, visited the Dockyard, and, being accompanied by Rear-Admiral Superintendent Bouverie and Captain Hastings, of the *Excellent*, he went over H.M.S. *Illustrious*, 74, to arrange a proper place for a shell-room.

The *Britannia*, *Bellerophon*, and *Madagascar* have had new Captains within the last week, viz., Captain H. Dundas, to *Britannia*; Captain C. J. Austen, to *Bellerophon*; Captain P. P. Wallis, to *Madagascar*.

Captain Sir Edward Chetham, C.B., K.C.H., has relieved Rear-Admiral Garrett in the Superintendence of Haslar Hospital.

At the examination of Midshipmen held in this Dockyard, as usual, the following have passed for Lieutenants this month:—Mr. Edward E. Morgan, Mr. W. H. Toole, Sir Godfrey Webster, Bart., Mr. W. H. Payne, Mr. Wm. Cashman, Mr. Spencer Hicks Pickard.

P.

P.S. The Charybdis is ordered to North America and West Indies.

Plymouth, April 21, 1838:

MR. EDITOR,—The preparations which have been making for some time past for transporting the troops to North America, in men-of-war, have taken precedence of almost all other matters, both in the movements of our ships and the business of our Dockyards. With one exception only, scarcely anything appears, to have excited much interest at this port since I last wrote you, and that exception certainly has been the subject of much conversation here: I allude to the loss and subsequent recovery of the Ranger packet, at Falmouth, of which I shall presently speak.

At the date of my last (March 20) the Malabar, 74, Captain E. Harvey, had just completed her fitments as a troop-ship, having left her lower-deck guns on shore, and been provided with every requisite accommodation for the service to which she is appointed. She remained in harbour until the 30th ult., when she was towed into the Sound by the Meteor, steamer, commanded by Lieutenant Pritchard, who arrived here on the previous day from Portsmouth. The Malabar remained in the Sound until the 9th of this month, and then sailed for Cork, to embark troops (71st Regiment) for North America. The Barossa, troop-ship, was undocked on the 23rd ult., having been newly coppered and her defects made good: she sailed a few days since (12th) for Cork, whence she will convey troops to Halifax. It was said that the Royals (2nd battalion), 32nd and 36th depôts in this garrison, who are to join the service companies in North America, would embark on board the Barossa, but it is expected that they will take their passage by the Prince Regent, transport, which has been fitted by the Dockyard, and is now lying in Stonehouse Pool.

The Inconstant, 36, Captain D. Pring, went down into the Sound on the 22nd ult., having completed the defects consequent on her late voyage to and from Halifax. She was not fitted for the reception of troops when she left Hamoaze, but was afterwards ordered to be so fitted, the fitments consisting of cabins on the half-deck (commencing on the fore-side of the Captain's cabin) for the officers, and fixed bed-places on the lower-deck for the troops, the ship's company being temporarily berthed on the main-deck. She was paid wages on the 30th, proceeded to Portsmouth on the 3rd of the present month, has since taken on board 200 of the Grenadier Guards, and is now on her voyage again to Halifax. The Columbine, brig, 16, Commander Henderson, which sailed hence on the 20th ult., was paid off at Chatham on the 5th of this month, after having been about four years in commission: when she left this port her Captain was confined to his cot by illness, but, as he partook of a farewell dinner with his officers, it is to be hoped he is now convalescent. The Talbot, 28, was commissioned on the 24th ult. by Captain H. Codrington: she is not manning very quickly, as men are scarce here, but it is expected that she will receive a considerable addition to her present number very shortly from Portsmouth. The Dockyard has very nearly done with her: she is fitting her lower rigging, and will be ready for sea in about a month or six weeks.

The Commander-in-Chief, Lord Amelius Beauclerc, returned to his duties on the 25th ult. after an absence of only a few days, and re-hoisted his flag on board the Royal Adelaide.

The Vulcan, revenue steam-vessel, Lieutenant-Commander W. Crispin,

came in on the 26th ult., and started again for a cruise on the 27th. The *Lightning*, steamer, Lieutenant-Commander Shambler, arrived on the 27th ult. from the eastward, and, having received a fresh supply of coals, proceeded on the following day to Liverpool, for the purpose, if wanted, of conveying the mails to and from Dublin for the next three months; but it appears that her services were not required, as she returned here this morning, and is gone on to Woolwich. The *Devon*, lighter, arrived on the same day from the coast of Spain, with unserviceable stores; and the *Meteor*, steamer, Lieutenant-Commander Pritchard, arrived on the 29th from Portsmouth, on her way to Falmouth, the station to which she is appointed, for the purpose of being employed to take the mails from vessels unable to get up Channel, owing to contrary winds.

The *Ranger*, packet, arrived here on the 31st ult., having been towed from Falmouth by the *Meteor*. She was docked on the 2nd inst., and it will readily be conceived that curiosity prompted many persons (among others myself) to get a sight of her when in dock, after the perilous situation in which she was known to have been placed for nearly five weeks.

The damages which immediately present themselves to the eye of a casual observer are the loss of the whole of the false keel, and manifest injury to the main-keel; the loss of about six feet of the lower part of the stern-post, and part of the after deadwood; the fracture of two of the pintles of the rudder; and a very visible alteration in the form of body on the starboard side, between the main and fore masts, there being an obvious indentation in the longitudinal curvature of the ship nearly amidships; also, at the same place, a very apparent alteration of form in the vertical transverse section of the vessel; and several planks, both exterior and interior, broken, as well as some of the frame-timbers.

She remained about a week in the dock into which she was first taken, and was then transferred to another, which can be better spared for the period (about a month) during which she is likely to be under repair. According to the accounts given by the Dockyard people who were sent to Falmouth to get her off the rocks, she lay, at the time of their arrival, about 150 feet from the nearest point of the sea at high water, and her position was "broadside on." At the time of the gale the wind blew from S.E.: the vessel took the ground abaft, in consequence of dragging her anchors; and, her head paying off to S.W., she was brought up in that position and lifted bodily upon the rocks. Her situation was one of extreme difficulty for getting her off again, being in a complete vale (or gully), on the "off" side of which stood a ridge of rocks between four and five feet high. On the other hand, the vale itself presented nearly a right line and gradual declivity, along which the vessel might be lowered, with very little obstruction of rock, through a distance of 290 feet to the water. Looking at the difficulties of either line of descent to the water, the latter was determined upon as being the least objectionable; and she was launched accordingly, head foremost, in nearly a south-westerly direction, bit by bit, after three weeks' hard labour, superintended by Mr. Spiller, one of the assistants to the master-shipwright at this Dockyard, who had thirty shipwrights and an inspector (Mr. Goss) to carry his mechanical plans into operation.

The court-martial appointed to inquire into the cause of the vessel took place on the 4th inst., on board the *Royal Adelaide*, flag-ship, to try Lieutenant-Commander James H. Turner, and Mr. Henry Hunter, Acting Master, on alleged neglect and remissness in the discharge of their duty, during the gale on the 15th of February last, when the *Ranger* drove from her moorings and went ashore on Trefusis Point, near Falmouth. The Court was composed of the following officers, namely, Rear-Admiral Warren, President; Captains Hancock, Sir Wm. Elliott, E. Harvey, and H. Codrington; and the Deputy Judge-Advocate, George Eastlake, Esq. The Court, having heard the evidence on the part of the prosecution, adjourned till the next day, when they met; and, after hearing the defence

on the part of the prisoners, acquitted Lieutenant Turner, and sentenced Mr. Henry Hunter to be dismissed Her Majesty's Service. The Ranger was paid off to-day. It is not yet known whether Lieutenant Turner will be reappointed to her, but the general feeling towards him is of a very favourable nature, and every body appears to anticipate that he will have her again.

The *Megæra*, steamer, Lieutenant-Commander H. C. Goldsmith, arrived here from Sheerness on the 1st inst. and sailed on the 4th for Malta.

Mr. Walker, Assistant Master-Attendant at this Dockyard, went to Pembroke on the 8th inst. in the Devon lighter, with a party of riggers, to bring round the Penguin packet, appointed to be launched there on the 10th inst., and which took place accordingly. Having jury-rigged her, they returned here with her on the 18th inst., to be fitted out at this port. Her dimensions are those of the Ranger, namely, 90 feet long, 30 feet 4 inches broad, and 358 tons. The Penguin is now being unrigged, and the same party (with the same gear) are going again to Pembroke to fetch the Grecian, a new class of brig, which is to be launched on the 24th inst.

The Swale, tender to the *Astrea*, at Falmouth, was taken on the graving-slip on the 10th inst., to repair damages to gripe and false keel, sustained while employed in assisting to get the Ranger off the rocks; and the Tortoise, sailing-lighter, was taken on the next day to repair copper and false keel, having been employed on the same service. The Resistance, 46, was turned out of dock on the 11th, having undergone a small repair. The Ranger, packet, was turned out of the North New Dock on the 11th, and on the following day was taken into that which the Resistance had been occupying. The Lyra, packet, was docked on the 12th, to be repaired, and coppered; she will probably be ready for sea again about the end of May. The Jaseur, 16-gun brig, was undocked on the 12th; she is now lying at one of the jetties fitting for sea-service, and will be ready for commissioning in about six weeks from the present time.

The Tartarus, steamer, Lieutenant-Commander G. W. Smith, arrived on the 12th from Woolwich; she went alongside the Dockyard as soon as she came into harbour, to have some trifling defects attended to, and to receive a fresh supply of coals. Her destination is the West Indies. She takes out as passenger Commodore Peter Douglas, who is to hoist his broad pendant on board the *Magnificent*, receiving ship, on the Jamaica station, having been appointed to supersede Commodore Payton, who resigns the command at his own request, on account of ill health. It appears that Commodore Payton arrived at Portsmouth a few days ago in the Madagascar, which ship has been docked in consequence of having been ashore upon an unknown coral reef, but it turns out that she suffered little injury. She is now to be employed in taking troops to Canada.

The Nautilus, 10, arrived on the 13th inst., and proceeded to-day to the coast of Africa. The Tartarus sailed on the 19th for the West Indies. The return of the *Pique* is anxiously looked for, it being understood that her defects, if any, are to be made good here. It will be remembered that she was built and commissioned at this port, and that there are, therefore, many persons in Plymouth and its vicinity who feel great interest respecting her, and to whom it will be gratifying to know her actual condition, after the many reports which have obtained circulation; some of which have given rise to much apprehension (at one period) even for her safety.

The commissioned ships in harbour are the Royal Adelaide, San Josef, and Talbot. Those in dock are the Caledonia, Endymion, Lancaster, Ranger, and Lyra. At the jetties are the Resistance, Jaseur, and Penguin. On the stocks are the St. George, Hindostan, Nile, Flora, and Pilot. The Nile, sister-ship to the Rodney, is having the cement removed from the openings between the timbers, several ships having been considered to be injured by that mode of filling-in.—Your's, &c.

Milford Haven, 17th April, 1888.

MR. EDITOR.—An unusual degree of bustle and activity has pervaded the port during the past month, not exceeded even in times of war, from which, appearances seem to indicate here, we are not far distant with some power or other. During the gales, which have been very severe since I last wrote, the Skylark revenue cutter arrived here, having carried away her bowsprit, lost her quarter-boat, and sustained other injury. Her defects having been made good, she sailed on the 3rd inst. on a preventive cruise. On the 10th the Penguin packet was launched from Pembroke yard, built expressly for the Falmouth station: she is a beautiful model, and was constructed by Sir Wm. Symonds, the surveyor of the Navy: her cabins are elegantly fitted with the mahogany saved from the old Gibraltar, lately taken to pieces at the arsenal. It was Mr. Edye's maiden effort in ship-launching since his appointment as master-shipwright, and a great number of spectators assembled to witness the spectacle. It is but doing an act of justice to Mr. E. to record the fact, by saying that the arrangements made by him on the occasion were most excellent, and entirely free from the noise and tumult so often conspicuous at such times. Miss Cumby, daughter of the late superintendent, named the little vessel, at the express invitation of Captain Corbyn. There will be two other craft launched from the same Dockyard shortly, viz. the Grecian, of 16 guns, on the 24th inst., and the Peterel, another packet, on the 23rd of May. The following are the principal dimensions of the Penguin:—

	Ft.	in.		Ft.	in.
Length of the keel	95	0	Breadth, extreme	30	3½
Do. do for tonnage	75	0	Do. moulded	29	6½
Breadth for tonnage	30	0½	Do. new method	237	3½
Depth in hold	14	8	Draught of water forward	7	11
Burden in tons	360	1	Abaft	10	11

Ballast on board 7 tons.—Bridgeways off.

Within the month directions have been received to retain, until further orders, the shipwrights, joiners, labourers, &c., entered at Pembroke yard in January last, for specific purposes. By this arrangement a building-shed calculated to contain a first-rate beneath its shelter has been completed, and, although considerably superior in appearance to those already constructed, it has been provided at nearly 4000*l.* less expense. The new landing-place, too,—carried out to low-water mark, spring tides—is rapidly progressing towards completion, and the fatigue party supplied by the Royal Marine detachment are under the able directions of the new master shipwright, beautifying and improving the arsenal generally. Two fine steamers, to be called the Merlin and the Medusa, are ordered to be built at Pembroke with all possible despatch, for Liverpool and Dublin. The former is to be launched in September, the latter in October next. All the force that can possibly be spared is put upon those vessels. When the Liverpool boats arrive to ply here, greater regularity may be anticipated in the conveyance of the mails, for those at present employed on that service are decidedly of too inferior power to perform the duty with certainty or satisfaction. One in particular—the Monkey—is totally unfit for the service; she is, perhaps, the oldest steamer in existence: only yesterday she was obliged to return for coals, having the mail on board, from half way across the Channel, because it came on to blow a little harder than might have been expected at this season of the year. It is to the vessels alone that the irregularity in the delivery of the mails is to be attributed, and not to the station, for no two points of the sister islands, taking all things into consideration, can be better calculated for a communication than are Milford and Waterford. The passage was made yesterday in eleven hours, and the day before in 11 hours 5 minutes. Besides, then, the accommodation this station and the present arrangements afford—the whole of South Wales, with its extensive coal, iron, and copper works—the shortness of

the water passage renders it far superior to any other place that can be selected. In a paragraph which lately appeared in the *Railway Gazette*, the fact mentioned, that it frequently requires two tides to take the steamers from Waterford to Bristol, fully establishes the superiority of Milford as a packet-station.

The *Penguin*, having been coppered and rigged in the short space of one week, will be undocked to-day, and the wind being favourable she will sail immediately after, under charge of Mr. Walker, Master Attendant, and a party of seamen from the guard-ship, for Plymouth, where she will be commissioned at once, and fitted for sea. Captain Jackson, C.B., the new superintendent, has not yet joined the arsenal, and Commander Corbyn is consequently still in charge performing the duties of that office. The marine detachment here are to be relieved by officers and men from the Chatham division early in the ensuing month. Orders to that effect have been received by the Commandant of the garrison, Captain Mitchell. The Yeomanry Cavalry belonging to this county—"the Castlemartin Yeomanry"—have escaped the destiny to which several of their brethren in arms have been subjected. Major Bowling, the Commandant, still retains the command of the corps. Since writing the above the *Penguin* has beat down the harbour under double-reefed topsails in half a gale of wind from the north-west, and the beautiful little "light barque" behaved astonishingly well.

G.

REVIEWS AND CRITICAL NOTICES.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A ROYAL NAVAL NURSERY. By Captain JOHN LIHOU, R.N., F.R.S. Ridgways, 1838.

THE manning of the British Navy, under the increased march of democratical opinion, is, or ought to be, the gravest consideration of our Statesmen; and it is a subject so deeply interwoven with the vital welfare of all, that we have repeatedly sounded the tocsin in its behalf.

The pamphlet before us is written by an active officer, who feels the full importance of the question, and proposes a means of meeting it. He makes a sensible and unpretending statement of the advantages that would probably accrue from enlarging and improving the Marine Society. It is admitted that great economy, as well as advantage, have been derived from Government's having had establishments of its own for building ships, manufacturing blocks and cordage, baking biscuit, &c.; then why not recur to the same wise system as an efficacious method of furnishing recruits for the Navy? The Marine Society has been found eminently useful, although possessing but one hut as a rendezvous, and that dependent on voluntary contribution; it may, therefore, be safely inferred, that Captain Lihou's plan of a "training ship" at each port, for receiving and instructing such able-bodied boys as offer themselves, must be beneficial to the public. By this plan excellent recruits would be raised for the Navy, the merchant service encouraged, and those lubberly landmen, who can never domesticate themselves afloat, might be left to grass-combing on shore.

We recommend the plan and its details to the notice and consideration of our readers, as one that appears to be very feasible. The hood-winked niggards of the hour will, of course, in their enlightened manner, exclaim, "what an expense!" Now we say, that those who would stickle about the cost and maintenance of a few hulks on the establishment enumerated by our author, to risk the promised results, are not worth listening to. "We contend, on the contrary, that were the experiment still more costly, it ought to be tried. We will close our brief remarks with Captain Lihou's conclusion:—

"Although the suggestions which I have here submitted have no pretensions beyond attempting to remedy the difficulties at present felt in procuring sailors for the Navy, whom I conceive the Merchant Service cannot afford in any sufficient number without crippling trade—maiming the goose that lays the golden egg, draining the spring which, after diffusing vigour throughout the country, empties itself into the public exchequer—it will be seen that the proposed nursery will not only have a direct tendency to lessen and limit the necessity of impressment, but that it will foster rather than harass the Merchant Service, leaving it as a powerful and inviolable reserve, only to be had recourse to in a case of great emergency. It is difficult to obtain such desirable objects at a less sacrifice than is here proposed; but it is needless for me further to enforce by argument Lord Collingwood's letter, which is sufficiently explicit on the uselessness of landmen on board ship; and as the present impossibility of getting seamen to volunteer from the Merchant Service can be ascertained by reference to the ships of war detained for want of men in our sea-ports, whilst, on the other hand, it is too manifest that an unlimited number of promising youths would joyfully enter on board the training-ships, who, after serving their country afloat, would be admirable recruiting parties on shore, it only remains for me to observe, that a time of peace, such as the present, is the period of all others to commence the proposed establishment, which being founded on the solid principles of simplicity, economy, and humanity, would no doubt be attended with every success."

We give under this head an extract of a letter from a correspondent at Edinburgh, bearing on the same subject:—

"I would suggest, that instead of taking so many landmen in the line-of-battle ships (for very few turn out good for anything), that an extra number of those fine fellows, the marines, should be put on board, who are always willing and ready at all calls, and, being well disciplined, would make much better waisters, &c., than the men we are often obliged to take to make up the complement, when seamen cannot be found.

"I can assure you that a first-rate went to the Mediterranean a few years ago with 160 men; few of them had ever been upon salt water before, belonging to her waist, afterguard, &c., and am sure that 100 well disciplined marines would have been far better than an equal number of the others.

"Seamen you may obtain on a foreign station, but marines are obliged to be sent out to fill casualties, and as seamen enter on a foreign station, these extra marines can be drafted to fill vacancies as they occur in the fleet, which will save the trouble of these being sent out from home.

"I only give the above hint that some able hand may take it up.
"A LIEUTENANT R.N."

HISTORICAL RECORDS OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

THESE records, which, in their complete form, will comprise the histories of every regiment in the British Army, and prepared for publication under the direction of the Adjutant-General, are at length making their appearance. Those of the Life Guards, including both regiments, with the 1st and 2nd Dragoon Guards, have been just issued; and, we believe, those of the 5th and 88th Regiments of the line are likewise ready for publication. The former, with the "Historical Record of the Royal Regiment of Horse Guards," compiled by Captain Edmund Packe, and previously noticed in this Journal, complete the History of the Household Troops. Their formation was the commencement of the present regular Army, and are thus very properly placed in the van of the service. The Life Guards date from the period of the Restoration, in 1660; the 1st or King's Dragoon Guards, and 2nd or Queen's, each from 1685. Mr. Cannon, under whose immediate superintendence these Records are being compiled, appears to have brought

great industry and considerable research to this undertaking, and, as far as we can judge from a hasty perusal, has executed the task thus far very competently. The Record of each Regiment is separately and very neatly bound, and is illustrated by several coloured plates, displaying the changes of uniform that have taken place from its original formation.

NEWLY-INVENTED PORTABLE FIELD TELEGRAPH.

MR. ADDERLY W. SLEIGH, a diagram of whose ingenious Night and Field Telegraphs was inserted in our Number for February, has since, in a separate publication, given a more detailed description of the latter invention. Its simplicity and probable utility to the country, wherever telegraphic communications may be rendered desirable, confer upon the invention an importance which, we trust, may recommend Mr. Sleigh, a late acting Master in the Royal Navy, and subsequently an acting Engineer, with the rank of Captain in the late auxiliary force in Spain, to the attention of the Government.

NEW PANORAMA.

A PANORAMIC view of San Sebastian and the adjacent country, including the action of the 5th of May, 1836, principally sustained by the British Legion against the forces of Don Carlos, is at present exhibiting in Madox-street, Hanover-square. The sketches from which this painting has been produced were taken on the spot by Claudius Shaw, late Colonel in the Legionary Force, and previously of the Royal Artillery, an intelligent and enterprising officer, and one whose energies we have to regret were not enlisted in a better cause. This circumstance, however, does not blind us to the interest of the present representation, which we believe to be faithful in most of its details; and although on rather a reduced scale, in comparison with similar exhibitions, it will well repay the trouble of a visit.

NOTICES TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

To "Duncarenensis."—The Cumberland and Boscawen are each of 2212 tons, with seventy 32-pounders, *all guns*. These are vessels of a new class, intended expressly for North Sea service, with light draught of water and heavy metal. The *Modeste*, 568 tons, of 18 guns, *carронаdes*. The *Megæra*, 717 tons, with engines of 140-horse power, for packet-service to the Mediterranean.

Will "V., Oxford," favour us with his name?

The continuation "Of the late Carlist Expedition from the Provinces" is unavoidably postponed till next Number.

We are obliged also to defer our promised notice relative to the rules and composition of the Order of the Bath.

From our numerous Correspondents we must request forbearance. Many of their communications are in type; but the space usually devoted to such subjects being completely forestalled by the controversies respecting the affair on the Guareña and at Busaco, compels us still to postpone their favours. We shall endeavour, if possible, to clear off arrears next month.

Dr. William Fergusson's communication received, but too late for this Number.

J. F.'s last packet received; also, since our last, a variety of correspondence, all of which shall demand our earliest attention.

EDITOR'S PORTFOLIO;
OR,
NAVAL AND MILITARY REGISTER.

AFFAIRS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

THE recent accounts from Canada are of a character to remove all anxiety, were any ever entertained, as respects the final issue of the late revolt in that colony. The gallant bearing of the troops has been most efficiently and enthusiastically seconded by the loyal inhabitants of the Upper Province, in the performance of their arduous service, the details of which will be found in the dispatches appended.

But as the subject of the seizure and destruction of the Caroline steam-vessel is still attracting some attention, we shall previously offer a few remarks on that subject. The Americans seem to think this act a breach of neutrality. We shall not attempt to discuss a point of international law, but will endeavour to illustrate the question. Let us suppose that the so-called Patriots—American brigands, banded together for the plunder of Canada—had, instead of occupying and erecting batteries at Navy Island, been ingenious enough to invent some monster-mortars, that should have thrown shot or shells from the American to the Canadian side, and had then raised their batteries, not at Navy Island, but at Schlosser itself, and fired away right bravely from under American protection. Would it in that case have been a breach of neutrality if a party of Canadian Militia, whose houses were falling under the fire of the reforming guns, had gone over, spiked the ordnance, and blown up the magazine, even at the risk of killing and wounding some of the redressers of provincial wrongs? We think not; the mortars would evidently have been fair game; and, if so, the Caroline was equally liable to seizure, for that vessel was in some measure acting the part of the mortars, was making the shot and shells perform half their range, while the gunpowder she conveyed to Navy Island made them perform the other half. We may deal with the shot and shells as we like after we catch them on Canadian ground; but those who throw them at us are *tabooed*. This new law of neutrality allows us, most liberally, to tear from our breast the arrow by which we have been wounded, but it prevents us from striking down the ruffian who has securely drawn the string under the shelter of an American shield. Such a law of neutrality would indeed be a novel innovation upon common sense, and upon which we think it unnecessary longer to dwell. We will therefore conclude our remarks by congratulating the Service upon the gallant expedition of Colonel Maitland. The instant resolution, the night march over ice and snow, the immediate onset, and the total dispersion of the brigands, were all in the very best style.

“ Amherstburgh, February 25, 1838.

“ SIR,—I have the honour to report, that agreeably to your instructions, last night proceeded with an escort of the St. Thomas's Volunteer Cavalry to the Petit Cote, for the purpose of reconnoitring the position of Fighting Island, then in the possession of the rebels, and to ascertain the practicability of passing troops over the ice for the purpose of dislodging them. Finding that Colonel Elliott, commanding at Sandwich, had returned to his post with the militia and volunteers under his command, I immediately

despatched a dragoon for the purpose of recalling him, and desiring that he would meet me with all his disposable force, for the purpose of co-operating with the regular troops you were so good as to intrust me with from this garrison. The latter, consisting of Captain Browne's company 32nd Regiment, the 83rd company under Lieutenant Kelsall, and Captain Glasgow's detachment of the Royal Artillery, with one 9-pounder, joined me this morning at half-past six. The former, under Colonels Elliot and Askin, arrived about seven, amounting to between 300 and 400 men. I immediately gave instructions to Captain Glasgow to open a fire on the enemy, who were seen in great numbers on the banks of the island and on the ice; and I have great satisfaction in adding that his practice was attended with the best results, the enemy being much discomposd by the precision and rapidity of the fire.

"On concentrating my forces I immediately adopted the resolution of passing the ice at any point that may be found practicable, much doubt existing as to the safety of the passage. We, however, were fortunate in selecting one at which to cross in single files below the island, the enemy, I have reason to believe, supposing such an event impossible.

"Captain Browne, with the company of the 32nd, leading the way, followed by the 83rd, the former being the first over, I directed to keep the outskirts of the island, facing the American shore, with a view of intercepting the retreat of the rebels, whilst the latter moved at extended order through the brushwood, flanked by the militia and volunteers.

"This advance was executed with regularity and order, and I only regret that the enemy did not give us the opportunity of disproving to the American nation and the rebels who have so actively disseminated the libel, 'that the militia of the Upper Province would not fight against them,' as I can safely say I never witnessed more alacrity and zeal displayed than was shown on this occasion by that body, or greater anxiety to encounter their foul aspersers.

"The flight of the rebels was most precipitate, leaving behind them one gun, which was only discharged once, various arms, rifles, muskets, pistols, swords, and provisions of every kind, together with powder, shot, and other munitions. I beg to observe of the muskets, that they were of the United States' army, and perfectly new, not having been fired, and apparently just taken out of the boxes which were found in their camp. Of the provisions, too, I must add that they were of a quality different to what would be furnished for the use of troops, consisting of crackers in barrels, boxes of smoked herrings, &c., and such as would have been contributed by a sympathising public rather than a commissariat.

"The most pleasing and yet most difficult part of my duty remains to be performed, viz., the calling your attention to the steadiness and general good conduct of the troops employed on this occasion, and the alacrity and zeal evinced by the large body of volunteers and militia that responded to my call.

"Where every one vied in the discharge of the duties assigned to them it would be invidious in me to particularise, but I must be excused if I mention the zealous operation of the following officers commanding corps:—Colonels Elliot and Askin, of the 2nd Essex Militia; Captain Glasgow, of the Royal Artillery; Captain Ermatinger, of the St. Thomas Volunteer Cavalry; and Lieut. Colonel Prince, who, though not commanding, was conspicuous as a volunteer. I also beg to call your attention to the alacrity with which the Indians of the neighbourhood turned out to our assistance. It is, perhaps, worthy of remark, that on the rebels retiring to the American shore, they formed themselves into platoons and fired several rounds at us, but without effect.—I have the honour to be, &c.

"H. D. TOWNSHEND,

"Major of the 24th Foot and Colonel.

"Colonel the Hon. John Maitland."

The official dispatch of Colonel Maitland recapitulates the foregoing operations.

COLONIAL-OFFICE, Downing-Street, April 11.

A dispatch has been received from Lieut.-General Sir John Colborne, G.C.B., Commander of the Forces in Canada, dated March 9, 1838, of which the following is an extract:—

Extract of a Dispatch from Lieut.-General Sir J. Colborne, G.C.B., to Lord Glenelg, dated Government-House, Montreal, March 9, 1838.

"I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter from Colonel Maitland, dated March 4, 1838, reporting the result of an able and gallant attack which he made on a party of brigands from Sandusky bay, in the State of Ohio, who had taken possession of Point Pele Island, in Lake Erie, about forty miles from Amherstburgh.

"Our frontier is at present so closely watched and guarded by the volunteer corps of both provinces, that no serious impression can be made by the parties of brigands that are carrying on the piratical mode of warfare along our extended line; but I trust that the late disgraceful acts on the part of the lawless population of the neighbouring states will compel the American Government to adopt effectual measures to prevent a repetition of the outrages which have been committed by the citizens of the United States."

"Amherstburgh, Upper Canada, March 4, 1838.

"SIR,—When I wrote you on Sunday last, announcing the defeat of the pirates at Fighting Island, I did not think I should have to report to you another instance of a British island being taken possession of in this quarter.

"Early in the week I received informations from different quarters that Point Pele Island had been taken possession of by the patriots from Sandusky-bay. This island is of considerable magnitude, being from seven to nine miles in length, and from four to five in breadth—it is situated in Lake Erie, about forty miles from Amherstburgh, and twenty miles from the shore. I sent three or four local officers to ascertain the fact of their being there; they went close to the shore and were fired upon: this altogether, with the circumstance of several people who had gone over to the island to look after their property, and who were detained by the Patriots, confirmed me that the report was true. I, therefore, on Thursday afternoon despatched Captain Glasgow, of the Royal Artillery, to inspect the strength of the ice, and report his opinion to me as to the practicability of moving guns and troops to this place. He returned the following day at 12 o'clock, and reported that the ice was practicable and strong enough to pass. I therefore determined, without loss of time, to attack them by day-break the following morning. accordingly, with two guns (6-pounders), the four companies of the 32d Regiment, one company of the 83d Regiment, a small detachment of thirty, belonging to the Sandwich troop of cavalry and St. Thomas's troop of cavalry, one company of the Essex Volunteers Militia, and a small party of Indians, moved that evening, under my own immediate command, eighteen miles along the lake shore, where I halted for some time to rest the horses, and at two o'clock in the morning commenced my march on the lake ice, arriving at the island just at break of day.

"I had previously arranged my plan of attack, which was as follows:—I directed Captain Brown, with the first and second companies of the 32d Regiment, to proceed round to the south end of the island, and take up a position on the ice to intercept any attempt at escape by that direction: he was accompanied by a detachment of about twenty-five men of the Sandwich and St. Thomas cavalry. Having made this arrangement, I landed myself with the remainder of the force, and the two guns at the north end: the rebels fled on my approach, and escaped into the woods.

I was here informed by some of the loyalists who had been made prisoners by the patriots on the island, that they were in force to the amount of about 500: the troops moved off in extended order, and pursued them through the island; but as the wood was thick, and the snow extremely deep and heavy, the men were much retarded in their progress.

"The rebels, finding themselves hemmed in on every side, moved out at the south end of the island, the only place by which they could escape to the American shore, and advanced, in line, upwards of 300 men, well armed and organised, upon Captain Brown's detachment, where they met with the greatest resistance: a brisk fire being kept up on both sides for some time, and several of Captain Brown's detachment having fallen, he determined to charge them, which he did, and forced them back (to the wood, where they retreated in great confusion) at the point of the bayonet. I particularly beg to recommend this circumstance to the notice of his Excellency the Lieutenant-General commanding.

"On the road, inside of the wood, the rebels had a number of sleighs, by which means they succeeded in carrying away about forty of their wounded men, the others succeeded in escaping at the southernmost point of the island, and got over to the American coast, leaving killed on the spot their commanding-officer, a Colonel Bradley, a Major Howley, and Captains Van Rensselaer and McKeon, and several others; some prisoners were taken, several of whom were severely wounded.

"I regret to say that the taking of this island has not been gained without considerable loss on our part; and I have to request that you will report for his Excellency's information, that thirty soldiers of the 32d Regiment fell in this affair, two of whom were killed, the others, some dangerously, some severely, wounded. I sincerely regret the loss of so many brave soldiers, and feel it the more when I reflect they did not fall before an honourable enemy, but under the fire of a desperate gang of murderers and marauders. A list of the killed and wounded I have the honour herewith to enclose.

"Having scoured the woods, and satisfied myself that the island was cleared, I re-formed the troops, and about five o'clock in the evening proceeded back, and the soldiers returned to their quarters at Amherstburgh that night.

"When you take a view of the circumstances of this affair, I need hardly detail to you the arduous duties the soldiers have had to perform, from the time they left this until their return, travelling, as they did, forty miles in an excessively cold night, twenty of which were across the lake; accomplishing the object I had in view—namely, liberating the loyalists detained on the island, gaining possession of the place, restoring it to the proprietors, defeating, with considerable loss, the enemy, and returning again to their barracks, within thirty hours.

"My warmest thanks are due to the whole of the officers who supported me in this undertaking, and it is impossible for me, in words, to do justice to the gallant soldiers of her Majesty's Royal Artillery, 32nd Regiment, 83rd Regiment, and the Loyal Volunteers of cavalry, infantry, and the few Indians, who constituted the force under my command.

"I have to regret that Mr. Thomas Parish, a private in the St. Thomas's troops of Volunteer Cavalry, was killed in rear of the 32nd Regiment, by a musket-shot. Colonel Prince, of Sandwich, Mr. Sheriff Lachlan, Capt. Girty, and several other gentlemen, asked my permission to accompany me, which they did, and gallantly acted with their rifles with our soldiers against the rebels in the wood. I found them very useful from their knowledge of the locality of the place.

"I trust this second repulse on this frontier of the American banditti (let it be understood that I have it from satisfactory authority that the whole of the gang driven from Pele Island are American citizens) will be a lesson to them that they are not with impunity to hold British territory.

"A large tricoloured flag, with two stars, and the word 'Liberty' worked upon it, and eleven prisoners, were also taken, some of whom state that the were formerly on Navy Island; about forty American muskets, some ammunition, swords, &c., were also taken.

"I am informed by the prisoners that it was the decided intention of these people to land on the Canadian shore last night, and march upon Amherstburgh, destroying by fire on their way all the houses, &c., they had to pass, and for which sleigh loads of American citizens, from Sandusky-bay had joined them the night previous to my attack, and made their escape back again immediately on my appearance in front of the island.

"I have the honour to request that you will lay the substance of this letter before his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, and forward it to Montreal, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant-General commanding.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"JOHN MAITLAND, Lieut.-Col. Commanding 32nd Regiment,
and Colonel Commanding Western Frontier.

"Col. Foster, Commanding Forces in Upper Canada, &c."

AN expedition, the credit of which is due to the Hudson's Bay Company, was fitted out in 1836, and its formation and equipment intrusted to two of its own officers, Mr. Simpson, the resident Governor, and Mr. Dease, for the purpose of uniting by actual survey, the line of the previously supposed boundary of the northern coast of America, left unfinished by previous explorers of the northern regions. In this endeavour the expedition has, as far as it has proceeded, been quite successful, having reached Point Barrow, whose latitude was determined in $73^{\circ} 23' 33''$ north latitude, and $156^{\circ} 20'$ west longitude. Point Barrow is described by these intelligent and enterprising gentlemen as a long, low spit, composed of gravel and coarse sand, which the pressure of the ice has forced up into numerous mounds, which, viewed from a distance, assume the appearance of huge boulder rocks.

The party having effected this part of their object, returned by the western mouth of the Makenzie River to Fort Norman, whence their report is dated. From Fort Norman they were about to proceed to the eastern end of Great Bear's Lake, there to pass the winter, from thence haul their boats across to the Coppermine River, and resume their survey to the eastward at the opening of the navigation in July next, with the view of connecting the discoveries of Sir John Franklin and Captain Back from Point Turnagain to Great Fish River.

THE annual sale of ladies' work in aid of the funds of the Sailors' Home, and the Destitute Sailors' Asylum, under the especial patronage of her gracious Majesty, the Queen Dowager, is appointed to be held this year in the large dining-room, at the Sailors' Home, Well-street, near the London Docks, on the 4th and 5th of July. We give this early notice of such an intention, in the hope of stimulating our fair readers to the aid of so benevolent a purpose. It is not our intention to harrow their feelings with pictures of the misery and privation of which sailors are so frequently the victims. At a distance from their homes and connexions, without a friend, so to speak, to appeal to in the hour of their distress, the blessing which such an institution at such periods confers is inappreciable. While hoisting this signal of distress, and appealing to the professional sympathies of our fair readers, we must remind them

that they have an undoubted right to claim this institution *ipso facto* as their own. The produce of the sale of ladies' work raised the building in the first instance, and its maintenance since has been provided for from similar sources. We may, therefore, anticipate that the good ship, so efficiently and philanthropically provided at her launch, will not be suffered to founder from want of her annual supplies to keep her afloat; and we may assure our fair auditory, that they cannot manufacture a night-cap that will repose more lightly on their own pillows, than providing a resting-place for the head of the distressed mariner—

"For mercy is twice bless'd;

It blesses him that gives and him that takes."

We have only to add, that contributions for this sale are received by Captain R. J. Elliot, R.N., at the Sailors' Home Office, 23, Well-street, London Docks.

A Circular, of which the following is a translation, has been addressed to the Officers of the late King's German Legion, by the distinguished members of the corps whose names will be found appended to the document:—

"CIRCULAR.

"The History of the King's German Legion, which has just been completed by Major Beamish, has doubtless become known to the officers of the late corps.

"The undersigned abstain from pronouncing any opinion upon this great and patriotic undertaking, which calls to the lively remembrance of the corps those times when common dangers and successes formed a bond of fellowship marked by a degree of strength and fervour which has seldom been equalled. Every participator in these events will, after a perusal of this history, look back with a warmer and more elevated feeling upon a period of his life, the effects of which have become of lasting importance to him. Proceeding from this simple point of view, and urged by numerous inquiries and actual offers, the undersigned feel that they only anticipate a wish which their comrades have much at heart, when they unite for the purpose of offering to the author a permanent acknowledgment of his labours, worthy both of themselves and the historian.

"In order to convey some notion of the sacrifices which have been attendant upon this work, it need only be stated here, that the English edition—moulded to the form of history from a mass of the most varied and perplexing materials—has occupied Major Beamish, with little intermission, for a series of years; that a *considerable sum of money* has been expended by him upon the publication of the work; and that, finally, with all this sacrifice of time, trouble, and expense, a partial injury to his health has also been contracted, so that the most unshaken perseverance in his laborious undertaking could alone have enabled him to complete the work.

"After a careful consideration of these circumstances, the undersigned have arrived at the firm conviction that Major Beamish has established a well-founded claim upon the corps for a permanent and distinguished acknowledgment of his labours.

"They have, therefore, formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of considering in what manner this acknowledgment should be made, and have come to the decision that a valuable piece of plate would furnish the handsomest testimonial of general acknowledgment.

"In accordance with this view, every officer of the late King's German Legion is hereby, as a comrade (*kamaradschaftlich*) solicited—entirely according to his means, and without any reference to the acts of individuals—to contribute to this honorary gift.

"From the change of circumstances, and very reduced numbers of those interested, it cannot be expected that anything worthy of the object proposed can be obtained without some personal sacrifice. However, the oft-tried and united feeling of the corps justifies the hope, that an opportunity, which can never again be offered, will not have presented itself without exciting a powerful inducement to make the sacrifice.

"The undersigned will transmit to Major Beamish a list of the names of those officers who contributed to the testimonial; and to these, on the other hand, will be furnished an account of the proceedings of the committee, together with a detail of the expenditure, &c.

"To accommodate those officers who reside in this country, and draw their pay from the British Pay Office, it is suggested that they should send an authority to Mr. Taylor, the Paymaster, to pay their contributions, which can be addressed under cover to the Adjutant-General.

"Those officers not included herein, or who may prefer it, are requested to transmit their subscriptions direct to the Treasurer.

(Signed)

"HARTMANN, Lieut.-General, "GROSSKOPF, Staff Surgeon,
 "VON GOEBEN, Lieut.-Colonel, "VON DURING, Colonel,
 "RAUTENBERG, Major, "VON RETTBERG, Lt.-Colonel,
 "VON LENSINGEN, Maj.-Gen., "KLING-SÖHR, Captain.
 "SCHWEITZER, Colonel,

"BUHSE, Capt.-Treasurer, "HEISE, Major-Secretary.

"Hanover, November, 1837."

The call made by the foregoing Circular has been responded to with an alacrity equally honorable to the "Legion," and gratifying to the feelings of Major Beamish. Up to the 25th of March no less than 1900 dollars (about 320*l.* British) had been already subscribed, and a model of the piece of plate was in progress. The gift, it is expected, will be ready for presentation by the end of the year.

Colonel Stawell and the officers of the 12th Royal Lancers entertained Captain Philips, late Adjutant of the Regiment, and his sons at dinner, at Hounslow barracks, on the 6th ult.

After dinner Colonel Stawell, for himself and the officers of the regiment, presented Captain Philips with an elegant silver tankard and breakfast service, with the arms of the regiment engraven on them. The Colonel at the same time highly complimented Captain Philips on his long, honourable, and meritorious service; after which Captain Philips's health was drank by the officers in the most flattering manner.

Such a handsome testimonial from so highly distinguished a corps of officers must be extremely gratifying to this old officer and his numerous friends, on his retiring after a service of thirty-four years in the regiment.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

Allowances to the Principal Officers of the several Public Departments undermentioned, their Deputies, Clerks, and Contingent Expenses, from 1st April, 1838, to 31st March, 1839:—

Military Departments:—General Commanding-in-Chief—			
Pay of the General Commanding-in-Chief, and of his Personal Staff	£.	s.	d.
Allowances for Forage, and for Travelling, and other Contingent Expenses	6,151	17	6
Salaries of Clerks and Contingent Expenses of Office	1,119	5	3
	5,901	14	0
Total for General Commanding-in-Chief	13,172	16	9

* Address—Captain and Quartermaster, Royal Rifle Guards, Hanover.

		£.	s.	d.
Adjutant-General:—				
Pay of the Adjutant-General, his Deputy, and Assistants at Headquarters		3,182	15	0
Allowances for Forage, and for Travelling, and other Contingent Expenses		694	9	11
Salaries of Clerks and Contingent Expenses of Office		3,842	18	0
Total for Adjutant-General		7,720	2	11
Quartermaster-General:—				
Pay of the Quartermaster-General and his Assistants at Headquarters		2,705	4	2
Allowances for Forage, for Travelling, and other Contingent Expenses		467	16	8
Salaries of Clerks and Contingent Expenses of Office		2,432	11	6
Total for Quartermaster-General		5,625	12	4
Total for Military Departments		26,518	12	0
Civil Departments:—Secretary-at-War—				
Salaries of the Secretary-at-War, his Deputy, Clerks, &c., and Contingent Expenses of Office		29,250	5	2
Judge Advocate-General—				
Salaries of the Judge Advocate-General, his Deputy, Clerks, &c. (including his Deputy in Ireland), Office Rent, and Contingent Expenses		5,212	14	0
Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital—				
Salaries of the Secretary, of the established Clerks in his Office, of the extra Clerks, Messengers, Housekeeper, and Contingent Expenses		7,336	11	0
Salaries of the Agent for Out-Pensioners, of the established Clerks in his Office, of the extra Clerks, Messengers, and Contingent Expenses, and of Sub-Agents, Clerks, and Contingent Expenses		7,893	6	8
Total for Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital		15,229	17	8
Total for Civil Departments		49,692	16	10
Charge of Public Departments		76,211	8	10
Deduct Charge for the Offices of the Secretary and Agent for Chelsea Hospital, the Amount being provided in the Estimate of the Charge of In and Out-Pensioners of Chelsea Hospital		15,229	17	8
		60,981	11	2
In aid of which Charge may be appropriated the Amount of the Fee-Fund, which is applied towards the Expenditure of the Secretary-at-War's Office, viz:—				
Amount of Fees received in the year ending 31st March, 1838, beyond the Amount which was applied as an Appropriation in aid of the Expenditure of that year in the Estimate 1837-8		3,282	0	0
Probable Amount of Fees to be received in the year ending 31st March, 1839		700	0	0
Appropriation in aid		3,982	0	0
Remains, Amount to be provided to 31st March, 1839		56,999	11	2

War Office, Jan. 26, 1838.

Howick.

UNITED SERVICE MUSEUM.

(Presentations, continued from our January No.)

ARMS, ANTIQUITIES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

- Cook, J. H., Esq., Purser, R.N.—Two New Zealand Zetels (male and female).
- Foster, Morgan H., Esq., Her Majesty's Paymaster General's Office.—Specimen of Vitrified Fort from Craig Phodric, Scotland.
- Hare, T. S., Esq., Her Majesty's Treasury.—Half-Crown, Temp. Caroli I.
- M'Clelland, J., Esq., Assistant-Surgeon 30th Beng. N.T.—A Sword belonging to the "Gâm" or Chief of the Singhoo village of Phakial, on the south-east frontier of Upper Assam; a Spear used by the Mishmees on the north side of the valley of Assam.
- Mackay, Hon. D. H., Capt. R.N.—A very splendid long Gun, formerly the property of the King of Kandy, Ceylon, the barrel richly inlaid with gold, and the stock curiously carved and plated over with silver; the lock is remarkable from its being of that kind called the "schnap-hans," the first improvement on the wheel-lock. On the breech is a representation in embossed silver of Vishnu, in his Seventh Avatar as "Râm" with the bow, attended by other deities; one gauntleted-handed Mahratta Horseman's Sword; one Mahratta two-handed Sword, very fine style; one two-handed Executioner's Sword, inlaid with gold; two Persian Khandjars, or Daggers; two Mahratta Daggers; three silver-mounted Spears, taken from Borneo Pirates; two Blow-pipes, with Spears.
- Macphail, J., Major 93th Regiment.—Model of a Cerigo Plough.
- Newenham, W. P., Lieut. R.N.—Fragments of Armour Fastenings, Fibulæ, &c. found in the Tour d'Ordre, where Henry VIII. had his camp when he besieged Boulogne.
- Patterson, J., Esq.—A Scymetar-blade made at Birmingham in imitation of the Damascus Steel.
- Paulson, J. T., Lieut. R.N.—Head-dress worn by the natives of Nooahewah, one of the Marquesas Islands.
- Peshall, C., Lieut. 3rd Regiment.—Nine Military Medals; thirteen Old English Coins; seventy-three Foreign Coins; eleven silver Coins from Herculaneum, in very good preservation; four ditto from ditto; seven Roman brass Coins dug up near Boulogne; a collection of twenty-three Impressions from the Gems, executed by the late W. Brown: Copper rings for the neck, Necklaces, and other ornaments worn by the Bichooana tribes, Africa; Common Water Pipes and India Jars; Iron-hoop Razors, used by the Crew of the Hon. East India Company's ship, *Ingles*, for shaving the Passengers; with various other articles, &c.
- Radstock, Right Hon. Lord, Capt. R.N.—Medal of Lord Rodney; Ditto of Earl Howe; Ditto of Admiral Vernon at Portobello.
- Rawlinson, G., Cap. R.N. 8th Regiment.—Small Vase, with winged figure: three small vases; one Lachrymatory; Fragments of Vases, &c. found at Athens; Granite from Cleopatra's Needle and Pompey's Pillar; Fragments of Mosaic Pavement; Pharos of Alexandria.
- Roberts, J. C. G., Capt. R.N.—Pair of Brass Candlesticks made from the Guns of the Floating Batteries, used by the French at the Siege of Gibraltar.
- Shelley, Hubert and Charles, Esqrs.—A large collection of Otaheitan Arms, Implements, &c., and Manufactures brought to England by Mr. C. Bell, an Officer in Vancouver's ship; amongst this collection may be noticed as remarkable, a Helmet made of Wickerwork, the outline of which is precisely similar to the earlier Grecian Helmet, and a piece of Armour for breast and back, formed of Seal's teeth, overlapping one another.
- Tonna, L. H. J., Esq.—A porcelain figure of Osiris, armed with the hook and scourge, or flail; hieroglyphics down the front.
- Tremenheere, Walter, K.H., Colonel Royal Marines.—Two Paddles from New Zealand.
- Tucker, W., Esq., late of the Coast Guard, West Africa.—A Fetish Idol from Dahomi; Ashantee Pouch; Ditto Cartouche Belt; Ditto Ladies' Toilet Box, containing Scent Boxes, Stamps, and Pipeclay for ornamenting the Face, &c. &c.
- Williams, Richard, Assist.-Comm.-General.—A long Albanian Musket, or Tophalk.

EVENING MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERS.

2nd April, 1838.

Major T. H. SHADWELL, CLERKE, K.H., F.R.S., &c., in the Chair.*

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that his Grace the Duke of Richmond, V.P., was prevented from presiding on the present occasion by his Parliamentary duties.

A list of twenty-eight names of Members, who had joined the Institution since the 1st of March, was read.

The following donations received during the month were laid before the Meeting:—

- Captain F. Beaufort, R.N., F.R.S., &c.—The Charts published by the Admiralty during the year 1837.
- Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street.—Travels in Arabia, by Lieutenant J. R. Wellsted, Ind. Navy, F.R.S., F.R.A.S. 2 vols. 8vo. 1838.—The Life of Earl Howe, K.G., by Sir John Barrow, Bt., F.R.S. 8vo. London, 1838.
- General Fred. Maitland.—Carta dirigida a los Espanoles Americanos por un de sus Compatriotas. 8vo. London, 1801.—Giuseppe Piazzi-Della Cometa del Anno 1811. Palermo.
- Colonel C. R. Fox, Sec. to the Master-General of Ordnance.—Histoire du Cardinal Ximenes. 2 vols. 8vo. Paris, 1698.
- Boileau Drinkwater, Esq.—Facts proving Water to be the only Beverage fitted to give Health and Strength to Man. 8vo. London, 1837.
- The Numismatic Society.—Proceedings of the Numismatic Society for the Season. 1836 37.
- S. Bannister, Esq. (the Author).—British Colonization and the Colonial Tribes. 8vo. London, 1838.

- The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.—Catalogue of Circumpolar Stars, from the observations of S. Groombridge, Esq., edited by G. B. Airey, Astr. Royal. 4to. London, 1837.
- Lieutenant A. F. Oakes, Madras Artillery (the Author).—Proposed Instructions for the Horse Artillery in India. 8vo. Madras, 1837.
- Lieutenant-Colonel H. Ehard.—A Malay Kris and Scabbard.
- Colonel G. J. Reeves, 27th Regiment.—The Drum Major's Came of the 3rd Leger (French), taken by the 27th Regiment at Castalia, 13th April, 1813.
- Captain A. W. Sleigh, K.T.S.—Model of a "Portable Field Telegraph," with a descriptive book.
- A. G. Carte, Esq., Ordn. Storekeeper, Hull.—Apparatus for communicating with a Stranded Vessel by means of a Rocket and Line.
- Capt. C. R. Macdonald, late of the 42nd Highlanders.—Eleven Ancient Saxon Coins from the Island of Juddikinneth in Argyleshire. Found in 1830.
- C. F. Forbes, M.D., K.H., Dep. Insp.-Gen. of Hosp.—1. Facsimile copy of General Phillipon's Commission, found at Badajoz after the assault.—2. General Phillipon's Commission in the Legion of Honour (the original).—3. Four Models of Ceylon boats.—4. A piece of cloth manufactured from the bread-fruit tree, by the Bounty Mutineers at Pitcairn's Island.—5. A bronze figure of a Ginoceator, found at Marathonisi (ancient Gythæum), at the mouth of the Eurotas in Laconia.—6. Silver Coin of the island of Rhodes.—7. Copy of the Senatus Consultum which is preserved in the Imperial Library at Vienna.—8. A Playbill with Garrick's name. 1766.
- Commander W. Ramsay, R.N., F.R.A.S.—Fossil Woods from Antigua.
- Sir Robert Ker Porter, K.C.H., K.L.S., D. Caraccas.—1. A large Boa from the Caraccas, with an account stating that the Boa had lived for eleven months, refusing all food: called by the Indians *Muckowrell*; by the Spaniards, *Tygniller*.—2. Hat worn by the Indians of the Rio Negro.—3. A large Cockroach ("Belostoma caraccorum"), Hope.—4. A large Grasshopper ("Grillus dux").—5. Specimen of Coal from the bed of the Rio Negro.
- Mrs. Matcham.—Facsimile of a Letter from Lord Nelson to his father, respecting the succession to the Dukedom of Bronte, Palermo, 1799.
- Mrs. Moore.—Specimen of Copper Pyrites, from a mine in Devonshire.
- Lieut. G. R. H. Kennedy, R.A.—A pair of Canadian Snow-shoes.
- James Wardrop, Esq.—A Snake-stone, with an account of its effects in curing the bites of venomous snakes, &c.

Thanks were voted to the several donors.

The following papers were read:—

- 1st. "On a particular Action of the Jib." By Lieut. Henry Raper, R.N., V.P.R.A.S.*
- 2nd. "On the application of the Percussion Principle to Firelocks." By J. Norton, Esq., late Captain 34th Regiment.

Captain Norton also exhibited his Waterproof Percussion Caps, and discharged several which had been soaking in water for six days in the Director's office.

Thanks were voted to Lieut. Raper and Capt. Norton for their interesting papers.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that the table on which the presents were exhibited was the identical table on which Tobias Smollett wrote his celebrated "Ode to Narcissa," and those portions of "Roderick Random" which relate to West Indian affairs; and that the candlesticks were made from guns from the floating batteries used by the French at the Siege of Gibraltar. The table had been presented to the Museum by Captain Peter Browne, R.N., and the candlesticks by Captain J. C. Gaven Roberts, R.N.

The meeting then adjourned to the 16th instant.

April 16.

Lieutenant HENRY RAPER, R.N., V.P.R.A.S., in the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

A list of twenty-one names of members who had joined the institution since the last meeting was read.

The following donations were submitted to the meeting:—

- Mr. Wyld, Charing Cross.—M.S. Catalogue of the Maps of H.R.H. the Duke of York, and other documents.
- Fennell, Esq.—Officers' Manual in the Field. 8vo. Lond. 1798.
- James Traill, Esq.—Branch of the Mangrove Tree, with Oysters adhering, from Sierra Leone.
- Miss Richardson.—Two Bottles containing Cobra Cassidas, and other Reptiles, in spirits, from Bengal.
- Com. E. J. Carpenter, R.N.—Specimen of the Great Lake Trout of Loch Awe (*Salmo Ferox, Jard.*) weighing 22 lbs., and measuring 37 inches, caught in Loch Awe by the donor, September 1837, trolling with live minnow.
- John Wray, Esq., Dep. Lieut. Col. Lincoln.—Thirteen Birds from Brazil.
- C. F. Forbes, M.D., K.H., F.L.S., Dep. Insp.-Gen. of Hosp.—Description of the Sculptured Metopes discovered amongst the ruins of the Temples of the ancient City of Selinus, in Sicily. Folio. London. 1826.
- Lieut. John Ford, h.p. late 79th Regt.—Likeness of General Miranda, taken by the donor at Barbadoes in 1806.
- Lieut.-Col. Sutherland, 5th Fusiliers.—A Bow used by the Indians of Guiana.

Thanks were voted to the several donors.

A paper was read by Com. W. Ramsay, R.N., F.R.A.S., on Gothic Architecture.

Thanks were voted to Com. Ramsay.

The meeting adjourned to the 7th May.

* This paper will be found in *extenso* at page 29.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARMY ON THE 1st MAY, 1838,

AND REFERENCE TO THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF REGIMENTS.

Regiments and Corps.	Stations of Troops or Service Companies.	Stations of Depôts.	Year of going on Foreign Service.	Year of returning from Foreign Service.	Whence returned.	Agents. British & Irish Establishment.
1st Life-gds.	Windsor . .	. . . . .	..	1816	France	Collyer
2nd do . .	Regent's Park . .	. . . . .	..	1816	France	Cox & Co.
Rl Horse-gds.	Hyde Park . .	. . . . .	..	1816	France	Cox & Co.
1st Drag-gds.	. . . . .	. . . . .	..	1816	France	Cox & Co.
2nd do. . .	Cahir . . . .	. . . . .	..	1818	France	Hop. & Cane
3rd do . .	Ipswich . . .	. . . . .	..	1814	Spain	Collyer
4th do. . .	Manchester . .	. . . . .	..	1813	Portugal	Collyer
5th do. . .	Birmingham .	. . . . .	..	1814	Spain	Cox & Co.
6th do. . .	Brighton . .	. . . . .	..	1808	Buen. Ayres	Collyer
7th do. . .	York . . . .	. . . . .	..	1799	Holland	Cox & Co.
1st Dragoons	Cork . . . .	. . . . .	..	1816	France	Cox & Bor.
2nd do. . .	Dublin . . .	. . . . .	..	1816	France	Cox & Bor.
3rd do. . .	Bengal . . .	. . . . .	1837			Hopkinson
4th do. . .	Bombay . . .	. . . . .	1822			Hopkinson
6th do. . .	Dorchester . .	. . . . .	..	1816	France	Cox & Co.
7th Hussars .	Dublin . . .	. . . . .	..	1818	France	Cox & Bor.
8th do. . .	Newbridge . .	. . . . .	..	1823	Bengal	Hop. & Bor.
9th Lancers .	Glasgow . . .	. . . . .	..	1813	Portugal	Cox & Co.
10th Hussars .	Nottingham .	. . . . .	..	1828	Portugal	Cox & Co.
11th Lt. Drag.	Bengal* . . .	. . . . .	1819			Collyer
12th Lancers .	Hounslow . .	. . . . .	..	1828	Portugal	Collyer
13th Lt. Drag.	Madras . . .	. . . . .	1819			Cox & Co.
14th do. . .	Edinburgh . .	. . . . .	..	1814	Spain	Cox & Co.
15th Hussars .	Leeds . . . .	. . . . .	..	1816	France	Cox & Co.
16th Lancers .	Bengal . . .	. . . . .	1822			Cox & Co.
17th do. . .	Coventry . .	. . . . .	..	1823	Bombay	Hopkinson
Gr.Gds. 1st bat.	St. Geo. Bar. .	. . . . .	..	1828	Portugal	
.. 2d bat	Canada . . .	. . . . .	1838			
.. 3d bat.	Portman B. .	. . . . .	..	1818	France	
Coldst. 1st bat	Windsor . . .	. . . . .	..	1814	France	Cox & Co.
Gds. 2d bat.	Canada . . .	. . . . .	..	
Sc.Fu. 1st bat	Wellington B. .	. . . . .	..	1814	France	
Gds. 2d bat.	St John's W. .	. . . . .	1838	1828	Portugal	
1st Ft. 1st bat.	Glasgow . . .	. . . . .	..	1836	W. Indies	Cox & Bor.
.. 2d bat	Canada . . .	Plymouth. .	1836			Cox & Co.
2nd do. . .	Bombay . . .	Chatham . .	1825			Lawrie
3rd do. . .	Bengal . . .	Chatham . .	1822			Cox & Co.
4th do. . .	Madras . . .	Chatham . .	1832			Cox & Co.
5th do. . .	Ionian Isl. .	Portsmouth .	1831			Hopkinson
6th do. . .	Bombay . . .	Chatham . .	1821			Cox & Co.
7th do. . .	Dublin . . .	. . . . .	..	1836	Malta	Cox & Bor.
8th do. . .	Jamaica . . .	Galway . . .	1830			Cox & Atk.
9th do. . .	Bengal . . .	Chatham . .	1832			Cox & Co.
10th do. . .	Fermoy . . .	. . . . .	..	1837	Ionian Isl.	Cox & Co.
11th do. . .	Bermuda . . .	Kinsale . .	1826			Cox & Cane
12th do. . .	Mauritius . .	Kinsale . .	1837			Cox & Bor.
13th do. . .	Bengal . . .	Chatham . .	1822			Cox & Co.
14th do. . .	W. Indies . .	Brecon . . .	1836			Downes.
15th do. . .	Canada . . .	Buttervant .	1827			Cox & Cane
16th do. . .	Bengal . . .	Chatham . .	1819			Kirkland
17th do. . .	Bombay . . .	Chatham . .	1830			Cox & Co.

To be relieved by the 3rd Light Dragoons.

Regiments and Corps.	Stations of Service Companies.	Stations of Depôts.	Year of going on Foreign Service.	Year of returning from Foreign Service.	Where returned.	Agents British & Irish Establishment
18th Foot . . .	Ceylon . . .	Castlebar . . .	1836			Cox & Cane
19th do. . . .	Templemore. . . . .	. . . . .	..	1836	W. Indies	Cox & Cane
20th do. . . .	The Tower . . . . .	. . . . .		1837	Bombay	Cox & Co.
21st do. . . .	Van Die. Land	Chatham . . .	1833			Cox & Co.
22nd do. . . .	Belfast . . . . .	. . . . .		1837	Jamaica	Cox & Bor.
23rd do. . . .	Cork* . . . . .	. . . . .		1834	Gibraltar	Cox & Bor.
24th do. . . .	Canada	Goosport . . .	1829			Collyer
25th do. . . .	Limerick . . . . .	. . . . .		1836	West Indies	Cox & Bor.
26th do. . . .	Bengal	Chatham . . .	1828			Lawrie
27th do. . . .	Cape of G. H.	Chatham . . .	1835			Cox & Co.
28th do. . . .	N. S. Wales	Chatham . . .	1835			Cox & Co.
29th do. . . .	Plymouth . . . . .	. . . . .		1838	Mauritius	Cox & Co.
30th do. . . .	Bermuda	Sunderland . .	1834			Cox & Co.
31st do. . . .	Bengal	Chatham . . .	1825			Downes
32nd do. . . .	Canada	Devonport . .	1830			Cox & Co.
33rd do. . . .	Gibraltar	Boyle	1836			Cox & Bor.
34th do. . . .	Canada	Fermoy	1829			Cox & Cane
35th do. . . .	Mauritius	Londonderry . .	1837			Cox & Bor.
36th do. . . .	W. Indies	Devonport . .	1830			Price
37th do. . . .	Jamaica	Plymouth . . .	1830			Lawrie
38th do. . . .	Dublin . . . . .	. . . . .		1836	Bengal	Law. & Bor
39th do. . . .	Madras	Chatham . . .	1827			Cox & Co.
40th do. . . .	Bombay	Chatham . . .	1824			Cox & Co.
41st do. . . .	Madras	Chatham . . .	1822			Cox & Co.
42nd do. . . .	Dublin . . . . .	. . . . .		1836	Ionian Isl.	Cox & Co.
43rd do. . . .	Canada	Plymouth . . .	1835			Cox & Co.
44th do. . . .	Bengal	Chatham . . .	1822			Cox & Co.
45th do. . . .	Canterbury . . . . .	. . . . .		1838	Madras	Cox & Co.
46th do. . . .	Gibraltar	Cork	1837			Cox & Bor.
47th do. . . .	Malta	Portsmouth . .	1834			Cox & Co.
48th do. . . .	Athlone . . . . .	. . . . .		1835	Madras	Cox & Bor.
49th do. . . .	Bengal	Chatham . . .	1822			Cox & Co.
50th do. . . .	N. S. Wales	Chatham . . .	1834			Cox & Co.
51st do. . . .	Chatham† . . . . .	. . . . .		1834	Ionian Isl.	Kirkland
52nd do. . . .	Gibraltar	Newcastle . .	1836			Cox & Co.
53rd do. . . .	Ionian Isl.	Dublin	1829			Cox & Bor.
54th do. . . .	Madras	Chatham . . .	1819			Cox & Co.
55th do. . . .	Madras	Chatham . . .	1821			Cox & Co.
56th do. . . .	Jamaica	Sheerness . .	1831			Cox & Co.
57th do. . . .	Madras	Chatham . . .	1825			Lawrie
58th do. . . .	Ceylon	Youghal . . .	1828			Cox & Bor.
59th do. . . .	Malta	Airmagh . . .	1834			Cox & Bor.
60th do. 1st bat.	Corfu	Hull	1830			Cox & Co.
2d bat	Corfu	Jersey	1835			Cox & Co.
61st do. . . .	Ceylon	Cashel	1828			Cox & Bor.
62nd do. . . .	Madras	Chatham . . .	1830			Lawrie
63rd do. . . .	Madras	Chatham . . .	1829			Collyer
64th do. . . .	Jamaica	Dundee	1834			Cox & Co.
65th do. . . .	America	Naas	1829			Cox & Co.
66th do. . . .	Canada	Fermoy	1827			Cox & Cane
67th do. . . .	W. Indies	Chatham . . .	1831			Cox & Co.
68th do. . . .	Jamaica	Waterford . .	1834			Hop & Cane
69th do. . . .	W. Indies	Dover	1831			Cox & Co.
70th do. . . .	W. Indies	Guernsey . . .	1834			Cox & Co.
71st do. . . .	Cork† . . . . .	. . . . .		1834	Bermuda	Price & Bor.
72nd do. . . .	Cape of G. H.	Clonmel . . .	1828			Cox & Bor.
73rd do. . . .	America	Clare Castle .	1827			Cox & Atk.

* Ordered for America.

† Ordered for Van Dieman's Land.

‡ Ordered for Canada.

Regiments and Corps.	Stations of Service Companies.	Stations of Depôts.	Year of going on Foreign Service.	Year of returning from Foreign Service.	Whence returned.	Agents. British & Irish Establishment.																															
74th Foot . .	W. Indies . .	Stirling . .	1834			Kirkland																															
75th do. . .	Cape of G. H. .	Drugheda . .	1830			Cox & Bor.																															
76th do. . .	W. Indies . .	Fort George .	1834			Cox & Co.																															
77th do. . .	Malta . . .	New bridge .	1837			Law. & Cane																															
78th do. . .	Buttevant	1837	Ceylon	Cox & Bor.																															
79th do. . .	Edinburgh	1836	Canada	Lawrie																															
80th do. . .	N. S. Wales . .	Chatham . .	1837			Lawrie																															
81st do. . .	Gibraltar . .	Carlisle . .	1836			Cox & Co.																															
82nd do. . .	Gibraltar . .	Nenagh . .	1836			Law. & Bor.																															
83rd do. . .	Canada . . .	Chester Castle	1834			Cox & Co.																															
84th do. . .	Jamaica* . .	Gosport . .	1827			Cox & Co.																															
85th do. . .	Canada . . .	Tralee . .	1836			Cox & Bor.																															
86th do. . .	Stockport	1837	W. Indies	Cox & Co.																															
87th do. . .	Mauritius . .	Longford . .	1831			Cox & Cane																															
88th do. . .	Bolton	1836	Ionian Isl.	Cox & Co.																															
89th do. . .	W. Indies . .	Gosport . .	1835			Cox & Co.																															
90th do. . .	Ceylon . . .	Portsmouth .	1835			Cox & Co.																															
91st do. . .	St. Helena . .	Paisley . .	1835			Barron																															
92nd do. . .	Malta . . .	Mullingar . .	1833			Cox & Bor.																															
93rd do. . .	America . .	Cork . . .	1838			Cox & Bor.																															
94th do. . .	Dublin	1834	Malta	Cox & Bor.																															
95th do. . .	Newry	1835	Ionian Isl.	Cox & Bor.																															
96th do. . .	Kinniskillen	1835	N. America	Cox & Cane																															
97th do. . .	Birr	1836	Ceylon	Cox & Cane																															
98th do. . .	Weedon	1837	C. of Good H.	Cox & Co.																															
99th do. . .	Kilkenny	1837	Mauritius	Kirk & Cane																															
Rifle B. { 1st bt.	Woolwich	1836	America	Cox & Co.																															
{ 2d bt.	Portsmouth	1837	Ionian Isl.	Cox & Co.																															
Rl. Staff Corps.	Hlythe			Detachments various periods.	Cox & Co.																															
<table border="0"> <tr> <td colspan="2">1st West Ind. Regiment . .</td><td>St. Lucia, &c.</td><td rowspan="7">Colonial Corps.</td><td>Agents. Cox & Co.</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="7"> REGIMENTAL AGENTS. Ashley, James, 135, Regent-street. Atkinson, John, Ely-place, Dublin. Barron & Smith, Up. Charles-st. Westminster Borough, Sir Richard, Bart., Armit, & Co., Leinster-st. Dublin. Cane, Richard, & Co. Dawson-st. Dublin. Cullyer, G. S., Park-place, St. James's. Cox, Hammer-ley, and Cox, Craig's-court. Downes, C., 14, Warwick-st. Charing Cross Hopkinson, Barton, & Knysett, Regent-st. Kirkland, J. (Gen. Agent,) 80, Pall Mall. Lawrie, John & Charles McGrigor, 10, Charles-street, St. James's-square. Brice, W. F., 34, Craven-st., Strand. </td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">2nd do. . .</td><td>N. Providence and Honduras</td><td>Cox & Co.</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Ceylon Rifle Regiment . .</td><td>Ceylon . . .</td><td>Kirkland</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Cape Mounted Riflemen . .</td><td>Cape of G. H.</td><td>Kirkland</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Royal African Colon. Corps . .</td><td>Sierra Leone .</td><td>Kirkland</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">R. Newfound-land Veteran Companies .</td><td>Newfoundland</td><td>Kirkland</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Royal Malta Fencibles . .</td><td>Malta . . .</td><td>Kirkland</td></tr> </table>							1st West Ind. Regiment . .		St. Lucia, &c.	Colonial Corps.	Agents. Cox & Co.	REGIMENTAL AGENTS. Ashley, James, 135, Regent-street. Atkinson, John, Ely-place, Dublin. Barron & Smith, Up. Charles-st. Westminster Borough, Sir Richard, Bart., Armit, & Co., Leinster-st. Dublin. Cane, Richard, & Co. Dawson-st. Dublin. Cullyer, G. S., Park-place, St. James's. Cox, Hammer-ley, and Cox, Craig's-court. Downes, C., 14, Warwick-st. Charing Cross Hopkinson, Barton, & Knysett, Regent-st. Kirkland, J. (Gen. Agent,) 80, Pall Mall. Lawrie, John & Charles McGrigor, 10, Charles-street, St. James's-square. Brice, W. F., 34, Craven-st., Strand.		2nd do. . .		N. Providence and Honduras	Cox & Co.	Ceylon Rifle Regiment . .		Ceylon . . .	Kirkland	Cape Mounted Riflemen . .		Cape of G. H.	Kirkland	Royal African Colon. Corps . .		Sierra Leone .	Kirkland	R. Newfound-land Veteran Companies .		Newfoundland	Kirkland	Royal Malta Fencibles . .		Malta . . .	Kirkland
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GENERAL AGENTS FOR THE RECRUITING SERVICE.

Great Britain—John Kirkland, Esq., 80, Pall Mall.

Ireland—Sir Bagenall W. Burdett, Bart., Dublin.

AGENTS FOR THE DECCAN PRIZE MONEY.

Lieut.-Col. Arbuthnot and John Kirkland, Esq.—Office, 80, Pall Mall.

M. B.—A reference to the List of Agents will explain the Abbreviations.

LIST of SHIPS of the Royal Navy in Commission 1st May, 1838, specifying their respective Ratings, Ages, the Yards where Built, the Dates of being Commissioned, and Present Stations.

Names.	No. of Guns.	By whom Commanded.	Where Built.	When Built.	When Commissioned.	Present Station.
FIRST RATES.						
Britannia	120	Capt. H. Dundas	Plymouth	1820	1826	Portsmouth
Howe	120	Capt. C. H. Paget	Chatham	1815	1835	Sheerness
San Josef	110	Capt. J. Hancock, C.B.	"	"	1836	Plymouth
Princess Charlotte .	104	Capt. A. Fanshawe [K.C.H.]	Portsmouth	1825	1837	Mediterranean
Royal Adelaide . .	104	Capt. Sir Wm. Elliott, C.B.	Plymouth	1828	1836	Plymouth
Temeraire	104	Capt. Sir J. Hill, Kt.	Chatham	1798	1836	Sheerness
Victory	104	Capt. T. Scarle, C.B.	ditto	1765	1836	Portsmouth
SECOND RATES.						
Rodney	92	Capt. Hyde Parker	Pembroke	1833	1835	Mediterranean
Asia	84	Capt. W. Fisher	Bombay	1824	1836	ditto
Bellerophon . . .	80	Capt. C. J. Austen [C.B.]	Portsmouth	1818	1836	Portsmouth
Vanguard	80	Capt. Sir T. Fellowes, Kt.,	Pembroke	1836	1836	Mediterranean
THIRD RATES.						
Donegal	78	Capt. J. Drake	Toulon	1794**	1837	Lisbon
Excellent	76	Capt. T. Hastings	Portsmouth	1810	1834	Portsmouth
Cornwallis	74	Capt. Sir R. Grant, Kt. [K.H.]	Bombay	1813	1837	N. Amer. & W. Ind.
Edinburgh	74	Capt. W. W. Henderson,	Merchant's Yd.	1811	1837	Part. Service
Hastings	74	Capt. F. E. Loch [K.H.]	Calcutta	1818	1838	Part. Service
Hercules	74	Capt. J. T. Nicolas, C.B.	Chatham	1815	1836	Part. Service
Magnificent . . .	74	Com. P. J. Douglas	Merchant's Yd.	1806	1831	Jamaica†
Malabar	74	Capt. E. Harvey	Bombay	1818	1838	Plymouth
Melville	74	Capt. Hon. R. S. Dundas	ditto	1817	1837	[of Africa] Cape G. Hope & Ct.
Minden	74	Capt. A. R. Sharpe, C.B.	ditto	1810	1836	Part. Service
Pembroke	74	Capt. F. Moresby, C.B.	Merchant's Yd.	1760	1836	Mediterranean
Russell	74	Capt. Sir W. H. Dillon, K.C.H.	Deptford	1822	1835	ditto
Talavera	74	Capt. W. B. Mends	Woolwich	1818	1836	Part. Service
Wellington	74	Capt. T. Maitland	Bombay	1815	1837	East Indies
FOURTH RATES.						
Portland	52	Capt. D. Price	Plymouth	1822	1831	Mediterranean
President	52	Capt. Js. Scott	Portsmouth	1829	1837	South America
Winchester	52	Capt. E. Sparshott, K.H.	Woolwich	1822	1834	East Indies
Barham	50	Capt. A. L. Coory	Merchant's Yd	1810	1835	Mediterranean
Dublin	50	Capt. R. Tait	ditto	1812	1835	South America
FIFTH RATES.						
Madagascar . . .	46	Capt. P. W. P. Wallis	Bombay	1822	1836	Portsmouth
Seringapatam . . .	46	Capt. J. Leith [van, C.B.]	Bombay	1819	1837	W. Indies
Stag	46	Commodore T. B. Sulli-	Pembroke	1830	1836	S. Amer. [of Afr.
Thalia	46	Capt. R. Wauchope	Chatham	1830	1834	Cape G. Hope & Ct.
Astrea	42	Capt. J. H. Plumridge	Merchant's Yd.	1810	1823	Falmouth†
Castor	36	Capt. Ed. Collier	Chatham	1832	1832	Mediterranean
Inconstant	36	Capt. D. Pring	Portsmouth	1836	1836	Part. Service
Pique	36	Capt. E. Boxer	Plymouth	1831	1836	Part. Service
SIXTH RATES.						
Alligator	28	Capt. Sir J. J. G. Bremer,	Cochin	1821	1837	Australia
Andromache	28	Capt. R. L. Baynes	Pembroke	1832	1838	Sheerness
Caliope	28	Capt. F. Herbert	Sheerness	1837	1837	South America
Conway	28	Capt. C. R. Drinkwater	Chatham	1832	1836	East Indies
Crocodile	28	Capt. J. Polkinhorne	Chatham	1825	1837	West Indies
Imogene	28	Capt. H. W. Bruce	Pembroke	1831	1836	South America
North Star	28	Commodore Lord J. Hay	Woolwich	1824	1837	Part. Service
Rainbow	28	Capt. T. Bennett	Chatham	1823	1834	West Indies
Rattlesnake	28	Capt. W. Hobson	ditto	1822	1834	East Indies
Samarang	28	Capt. W. Broughton	Cochin	1822	1836	South America
Sapphure	28	Capt. R. F. Rowley	Portsmouth	1827	1835	Mediterranean
Talbot	28	Capt. H. J. Codrington	Pembroke	1824	1838	Plymouth
Tyne	28	Capt. J. Townshend	Woolwich	1826	1837	Mediterranean
Volage	28	Capt. H. Smith (n)	Portsmouth	1825	1837	East Indies
Carysfort	26	Capt. H. B. Martin	Pembroke	1836	1836	Mediterranean
Cleopatra	26	Capt. Hon. G. Grey	Pembroke	1835	1835	South America

* Taken from Spaniards in 1797.

† Receiving Ship—reduced to the complement of four guns.

‡ Commissioned by Captain-Superintendent of Packets—reduced to complement of six guns.

** Captured in 1798.

Names	No. of Guns.	By whom Commanded.	Where Built.	When Built.	When Commissioned.	Present Station.
Vestal	26	Capt. T. W. Carter	Sheerness	1833	1837	West Indies
Magicienne	24	Capt. G. W. St. J. Mildmay	Merchnt's Yd.	1819	1835	Lisbon
Brune	22	Capt. J. Clavell	France	1787	1836	Chatham*
Ceylon	22	Commod. Sir J. Louis, Bt.			1834	Malta†
STOOPS.						
Champion	18	Com. G. St. V. King	Portsmouth	1824	1835	West Indies
Children	16	Capt. Hon. H. Keppel	Chatham	1827	1834	Coast of Africa
Comus	16	Com. Hon. P. P. Cary	Pembroke	1828	1837	West Indies
Dido	18	Capt. L. Davies, C.B.	ditto	1836	1836	Mediterranean
Electra	18	Com. W. Preston	Portsmouth	1827	1837	South America
Favourite	18	Com. W. Croker	ditto	1829	1837	East Indies
Fly	18	Com. R. Elliott	ditto	1831	1836	South America
Harrier	18	Com. W. H. H. Carew	ditto	1831	1835	ditto
Hazard	18	Com. J. Wilkinson	ditto	1837	1837	Mediterranean
Hyacinth	18	Cofn. W. W. Warren	Plymouth	1829	1837	East Indies
Larao	18	Com. P. J. Blake	Pembroke	1829	1837	East Indies
Lily	16	Com. J. Reeve	Pembroke	1837	1837	Portsmouth
Modesto	18	Com. H. Eyres	Woolwich	1837	1837	Portsmouth
Nimrod	20	Com. J. Fraser	Deptford	1828	1835	West Indies
Pearl	20	Com. Lord C. E. Paget	Merchnt's Yd.	1826	1835	West Indies
Pelican	16	Com. B. Popham	Merchnt's Yd.	1812	1834	Coast of Africa
Pelorus	16	Com. F. Harding	Portsmouth	1809	1837	East Indies
Pyldes	18	Com. W. L. Castle	Woolwich	1824	1835	Coast of Africa
Rechehorse	18	Com. H. W. Craufurd	Plymouth	1830	1837	West Indies
Racer	16	Com. J. Hlope	Portsmouth	1833	1833	ditto
Raleigh	18	Capt. M. Quin	Merchnt's Yd.	1806	1834	East Indies
Ringdove	16	Com. H. S. Nixon	Plymouth	1833	1837	West Indies
Rover	18	Com. C. F. de N.	Chatham	1832	1834	South America
Sappho	16	Com. T. Fraser	Woolwich	1833	1836	West Indies
Satellite	18	Com. R. Robb	Pembroke	1826	1838	West Indies
Scout	18	Com. R. Craigie	Chatham	1832	1833	Coast of Africa
Seylla	16	Com. Hon. J. Denman	Merchnt's Yd.	1809	1836	Lisbon
Serpent	16	Com. R. L. Warren	Merchnt's Yd.	1832	1836	West Indies
Snake	16	Com. A. Milne	Merchnt's Yd.	1822	1837	ditto
Sparrow Hawk	16	Com. J. Shepherd	Woolwich	1807	1837	South America
Trinculo	16	Com. H. E. Coffin	Merchnt's Yd.	1809	1836	Lisbon
Twined	20	Com. Hon. F. T. Pelham	Portsmouth	1823	1835	Part. Service
Victor	16	Com. B. Crozier	Bombay	1814	1831	East Indies
Wanderer	16	Com. T. Bushby	Chatham	1835	1835	West Indies
Wasp	16	Com. Hon. D. W. A. Pelham	Merchnt's Yd.	1812	1837	Mediterranean
Wolf	18	Com. E. Stauley	Portsmouth	1826	1834	East Indies
Wolverine	16	Com. Hon. E. Howard	Merchnt's Yd.	1836	1836	Mediterranean
Zebra	16	Capt. R. C. McCrea	Bombay	1815	1834	East Indies
BRIGS.						
Clio	16	Com. W. Richardson (a)	Merchnt's Yd.	1807	1835	Mediterranean
Cruizer	16	Com. R. H. King	Chatham	1828	1838	Chatham
Harlequin	16	Com. J. E. Erskine	Pembroke	1836	1836	Mediterranean
Algerine	10	Lieut. W. S. Thomas	Merchnt's Yd.	1829	1835	East Indies
Britomart	10	Lieut. O. Stanley	Portsmouth	1820	1837	Australia
Curlew	10	Lieut. E. Noreott	Woolwich	1830	1835	Coast of Africa
Espoir	10	Lieut. J. T. Paulson	Chatham	1826	1838	Lisbon
Harpy	10	Lieut. H. St. J. Georges	ditto	1825	1836	West Indies
Leveret	10	Lieut. C. J. Bosanquet	Portsmouth	1825	1835	Coast of Africa
Nautilus	10	Lieut. G. Beaufoy	Woolwich	1830	1838	ditto
Partridge	10	Lieut. W. Morris (b)	Pembroke	1829	1838	Portsmouth
Rapid	10	Lieut. Hon. G. H. Kinnaird	Portsmouth	1823	1836	Mediterranean
Royalist	10	Lieut. Hon. E. Plunkett	ditto	1823	1834	Part. Service
Suracen	10	Lieut. H. W. Hill	Plymouth	1831	1837	Coast of Africa
Savage	10	Lieut. Hon. E. R. Curzon	ditto	1830	1836	Part. Service
Scorpion	10	Lieut. C. Gayton	ditto	1829	1837	Mediterranean
Water Witch	10	Lieut. W. Dickey	Merchnt's Yd.	1832	1834	Coast of Africa
Ward	10	Lieut.	Pembroke	1830	1837	South America
Arrow, ketch	10	Lieut. B. J. Sullivan	Portsmouth	1823	1838	Portsmouth
Sparrow, ketch	10	Lieut. R. Lowey	Pembroke	1828	1837	South America
Termagant, brigant.	10	Lieut. W. J. Williams	Portsmouth	1837	1838	Portsmouth
Cockatrice, schooner	6	Lieut. J. Douglas	ditto	1830	1836	South America
Hornet, brigantine	6	Lieut. H. Baillie	Chatham	1831	1837	West Indies
Spider, schooner	6	Lieut. J. O'Reilly (a)	ditto	1832	1835	South America
Viper, brigantine	6	Lieut. W. Winniett	Pembroke	1831	1837	Coast of Africa
Basilisk, ketch	6	Lieut. G. G. Macdonald	Chatham	1824	1835	South America
Pickle, schooner	5	Lieut. P. Hast	West Indies	1827	1837	West Indies
Skipjack, schooner	5	Lieut. J. J. Robinson	West Indies	1827	1836	West Indies
Seafower, cutter	4	Lieut. J. Roche	Portsmouth	1830	1835	Portsmouth

* Ordinary Depot.—Captured from French 1808.

† Receiving Ship—reduced to the complement of two guns.

Names.	No. of Guns.	By whom Commanded.	Where Built.	When Built.	When Commissioned.	Present Station.
Bonetta	3	Lieut. ———	Sheerness	1836	1836	Coast of Africa
Brisk	3	Lieut. A. Kellett	Chatham	1819	1837	Coast of Africa
Buzzard	3	Lieut. J. L. R. Stoll	Portsmouth	1834	1834	Coast of Africa
Charybdis	3	Lieut. Hon. R. Gore	Portsmouth	1831	1838	Portsmouth.
Dolphin	3	Lieut. J. Macdonald	Sheerness	1836	1836	Coast of Africa
Fair Rosamond, sch.	3	Lieut. W. B. Oliver	Was a Slave	1831	1837	Coast of Africa
Forrester, ditto	3	Lieut.	Chatham	1831	1837	Coast of Africa
Griffin, brigantine	3	Lieut. J. G. D'Urban	Chatham	1832	1836	West Indies
Lynx, ditto	3	Lieut. H. Broadhead	Portsmouth	1833	1837	Coast of Africa
SURVEYING VESSELS.						
Ætina	6	Capt. A. T. E. Vidal	Chatham	1824	1835	Coast of Africa
Beacon	8	Lieut. T. Graves	Pembroke	1823	1836	Mediterranean
Beagle	10	Com. J. C. Wickham	Woolwich	1820	1837	Australia
Fairy	10	Capt. W. Hewett (b)	Chatham	1826	1837	Woolwich
Lark	4	Lieut. T. Smith	ditto	1830	1835	West Indies
Magpie	4	Lieut. T. S. Brock	Sheerness	1830	1836	Mediterranean
Mastiff	6	Mast. Com. G. Thomas	Merchant's Yd.	1813	1836	Orkney Islands
Raven	4	Lieut. G. A. Bedford	Pembroke	1829	1835	Coast of Africa
Starling	4	Lieut. H. Kellett	ditto	1829	1835	South America
Sulphur	8	Com. E. Belcher	Chatham	1826	1835	ditto
Thunder	6	Lieut. E. Barnett	Deptford	1829	1837	West Indies
STEAM VESSELS.						
African, survey, ves.	100	Capt. F. W. Beechey	Woolwich	1825	1837	Coast of Ireland
Alban	100	Lieut. E. B. Tinsling	Deptford	1826	1836	West Indies
Blazer	160	Lieut. J. M. Waugh	Chatham	1834	1836	Mediterranean
Boxer	80	Lieut. F. Bullock	ditto	1837	1837	Part. Service
Carron	100	Lieut. M. Thomas, actg.	Deptford	1827	1837	West Indies
Comet	100	Lieut. G. T. Gordon	ditto	1827	1837	Part. Service
Confiance	220	Lieut. E. Stopford	Woolwich	1827	1836	Mediterranean
Dee	100	Com. J. Shurr, R.H.	Woolwich	1832	1838	Portsmouth.
Echo	100	Lieut. W. James	ditto	1827	1836	West Indies
Firefly	140	Lieut. J. Pearce	ditto	1832	1836	Mediterranean
Flamer	140	Lieut. J. M. Potbury	Merchant's Yd.	1831	1836	West Indies
Lightning	100	Lieut. J. Shambler	Deptford	1823	1836	Woolwich
Megara	140	Lieut. H. G. Goldsmith	Sheerness	1837	1837	Mediterranean.
Meteor	100	Lieut. R. D. Pritchard	Deptford	1824	1838	Falmouth
Phoenix	220	Com. W. H. Henderson	Chatham	1832	1835	Part. Service
Rhadamanthus	220	Com. A. Wakefield	Plymouth	1832	1837	Mediterranean
Salamander	220	Com. S. C. Dacres	Sheerness	1832	1836	Lisbon
Spitfire	160	Lieut. A. Kennedy	Woolwich	1834	1834	Mediterranean
Tartarus	160	Lieut. G. W. Smith	Pembroke	1834	1838	West Indies.
Volcano	160	Lieut. W. M'Ilwaine	Portsmouth	1836	1836	Mediterranean
YACHTS.						
Royal George		Capt. Lord A. Fitzclarence	Deptford	1817	1837	Portsmouth
Royal Sovereign		Capt. S. Jackson, C.B.	ditto	1804	1837	Pembroke
William and Mary		Capt. P. Hornby, C.B.	ditto	1807	1837	Woolwich
SLOOP OF WAR FITTED AS PACKETS.						
Alert	6	Lieut. C. H. Norrington	Merchant's Yd.	1835	1835	Falmouth
Brisels	6	Lieut. J. Downey	Deptford	1829	1829	ditto
Delight	10	Lieut. J. Moore (b)	Chatham	1829	1835	ditto
Express	6	Lieut. W. P. Crooks	Deptford	1836	1836	ditto
Goldfinch	6	Lieut. E. Collier	Merchant's Yd.	1808	1832	ditto
Hope	10	Lieut. W. L. Rees	Plymouth	1824	1836	ditto
Laywing	6	Lieut. F. R. Coghlan	Chatham	1825	1837	ditto
Lionnet	6	Lieut. W. Downey	Merchant's Yd.	1835	1835	ditto
Lyra	6	Lieut. W. Forrester	Plymouth	1821	1837	ditto
Magnet	10	Lieut. S. Griffith	Woolwich	1823	1836	ditto
Mutine	4	Lieut. R. Pawle	Plymouth	1823	1826	ditto
Nightingale	6	Lieut. G. Fortescue	ditto	1821	1830	ditto
Opossum	4	Lieut. R. Peter	Sheerness	1821	1830	ditto
Pandora	4	Lieut. R. W. Innes	Woolwich	1829	1836	ditto
Pigeon	4	Lieut. W. Luce	Pembroke	1827	1836	ditto
Reindeer	6	Lieut. H. P. Dicken	Plymouth	1829	1830	ditto
Seagull	6	Lieut. J. Parsons	Chatham	1832	1834	ditto
Sheldrake	4	Lieut. A. R. L. Passingham	Pembroke	1825	1832	ditto
Skyhawk	4	Lieut. C. P. Ladd	ditto	1826	1831	ditto
Sney	4	Lieut. R. H. James	ditto	1827	1833	ditto
Star	4	Lieut. C. Smith	Woolwich	1835	1836	ditto
Swift	4	Lieut. D. Welch	Deptford	1836	1836	ditto
Tyrian	10	Lieut. E. Jennings	Woolwich	1826	1834	ditto

This Table has been prepared, from original sources, expressly for this Journal; and, if borrowed, will, it is hoped, be acknowledged.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

NAVY.

PROMOTIONS.

TO BE COMMANDER.

John Skynner.

APPOINTMENTS.

CAPTAINS.

*Peter John Douglas.....Magnificent, to be
Commodore at Jamaica.
Henry Dundas.....Britannia.
Charles John Austen.....Bellersophon.
Provo Will. Parry Wallis. Madagascar.

COMMANDER.

J. GrantTulavera.

LIEUTENANTS.

J. M. MotleyDeca.
J. P. MillsTalbot.
T. LavingtonCoast Guard.
J. RendellDitto.
J. DaviesDitto.
M. BennettDitto.
W. C. MetcalfeMalabar.
W. J. Williamsto com. Termagant.

B. J. Sullivanto com. Arrow.
M. Thomasactg. to com. Car-
ron St. V.
J. A. A. Riddell.... ..Seringapatam.

MASTERS.

J. W. Armstrong.....Victory.
A. ThompsonColumbia St. V.
G. Biddlecombe.....Talbot.

ASSISTANT-SURGEONS.

H. MorrisRl. George Yacht.
W. F. CarterHaslar Hospital.
W. RobertsBritannia.
R. J. B. ChambersGoldfinch.
G. St. G. Bowden ..(add) Royal Adelaide.
A. B. Macpherson.....Savage.
S. DonnellyTalbot.
L. T. Cunningham.....Termagant.
W. RogerCornwallis.
J. Caldwell.....Ditto.
W. Bayne.....Pickle.

PURSER.

C. Williams.....actg. Nimrod.

CHAPLAIN.

Rev. James CooperMalabar.

ARMY.

WAR OFFICE, March 30.

1st Drag. Guards—Serj.-Major Joseph Misset
to be Quarterm. vice John Brown, who retires
upon h.p.

4th—Drag. Guards—Alex. Rolls, Gent. to be
Cornet by purch. vice Vokes, who retires.

3rd Light Drags.—Assist.-Surg. Arthur Wood,
M.D., from 11th Lt. Drags., to be Assist.-Surg.

4th Light Drags.—Giles Symonds, Gent. to be
Cornet by purch. vice French, who retires.

5th Foot—Lieut. Francis R. Pyner to be Ad-
jutant, vice Munro, dec.

19th—Lieut. Thos. Hilton to be Capt. by
purch. vice Chambers, who retires; Ensign Jas.
Temple Bowdoin to be Lieut. by purch. vice
Hilton; James Ker, Gent. to be Ensign by
purch. vice Bowdoin.

23rd—Assist.-Surg. James Connell, late of 3rd
Light Drags. to be Assist.-Surg.

25th Ensign Harry Gough to be Lieut. by
purch. vice Ethelston, who retires; Henry
Francis Cnst, Gent. to be Ensign by purch.
vice Gough; James Ogilvy, Gent. to be Ensign
by purch. vice Jn. Andrew Ogilvy, who retires.

26th—Major-Gen. Sir John Colborne, G.C.B.
from 94th Foot, to be Col. vice Gen. the Earl of
Dalhousie, G.C.B. dec.

31st—Lieut.-Gen. Sir Colin Halkett, K.C.B.
from 71st Foot, to be Col. vice Lieut.-Gen. Sir
E. Barnes, G.C.B. dec.

36th—Robert Cairnes Bruce, Gent. to be En-
sign by purch. vice Molly, who retires.

42nd—Lieut. G. B. Cumberland to be Capt.
by purch. vice Garthshore, who retires. Ensign
Charles Murray to be Lieut. by purch. vice
Cumberland; James Grant, Gent. to be Ensign
by purch. vice Murray.

67th—Lieut. Peter Brannan to be Capt. with-
out purch. vice Carruthers, dec.; Ensign W.
Pillsworth to be Lieut. vice Brannan; Gent.
Cadet J. L. Campbell, from the Royal Mil. Col.
to be Ensign, vice Pillsworth.

69th—Ensign Thos. J. Kearney to be Adjut.
vice Muddell, who resigns the Adjutantcy only.
71st—Major-Gen. Sir S. F. Whittingham,
K.C.B. to be Col. vice Lieut.-Gen. Sir Colin
Halkett, appointed to the command of 31st
Foot; Cathrine Campbell Hamilton Grant,
Gent. to be Assist.-Surg.

94th—Major-Gen. Sir T. M'Mahon, Bart.
K.C.B. to be Col. vice Major-Gen. Sir John Col-
borne, appointed to the command of 26th Foot.

Hospital Staff—G. A. Cowper, M.D. to be
Assist.-Surg. to the Forces, vice Hawthorn, dec.
Commissariat—Commissariat Clerk Julius
Skerrett Le Lievre to be Dep. Assist. Commis-
sary-Gen.; Commissariat Clerk Wm. Fisher
Mends to be Deputy Assist. Commissary-Gen.

Mem.—James Connell, lately superseded as
Assist.-Surg. in the 3rd Light Drags. has been
reinstated in his rank. The name of the En-
sign appointed to 47th Foot on 24th Mar. 1838,
is Richard John Eltrington, and not Richard
John Elrington, as stated in Gazette of 23d inst.

The commission of the undermentioned officer
has been cancelled, from 1st April, 1838, inclu-
sive, he having accepted a commuted allowance
for his half-pay; Lieut. George Mears Countess
Bowen, h.p. 39th Foot.

Mem.—Her Majesty has been graciously
pleased to permit the 2nd, or Royal North Bri-
tish, Regiment of Dragoons, which already has
the badge of an Eagle upon its buttons, in com-
memoration of its having captured a French
Eagle, at the battle of Waterloo, on 18th June,
to bear that distinction upon its standards.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, March 31.

Royal Reg. of Artillery—Major-Gen. Robert
Beever to be Colonel Commandant, vice Millar,
dec.; Second Lieut. George Graydon to be First
Lieut. vice Jephsons, dec.

WAR OFFICE, April 6.

1st Foot—Lt. Huntley Nicholson to be Capt. without purch. vice Brooke, dec.; Gent. Cadet Alexander Gordon, from the Royal Mil. Col. to be Ensign, without purch.

8rd—Capt. Robt. Prescott Eason, from h.p. Unatt. to be Capt. vice Robert M'Nabb, who exch. receiving the diff.; Capt. Samuel Fortnum Cox, from h.p. of 2nd Ceylon Regt. to be Capt. vice Robert Prescott Eason, who exch.; Lieut. James Charles Rouse to be Capt. by purch. vice Cox, who retires; Ensign William John Dorchill to be Lieut. by purch. vice Rouse; Charles William Green, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Dorchill.

5th—Gent. Cadet Louis H. Hamilton, from the Royal Mil. Col. to be 2nd Lieut. without purch.

11th—Capt. Jn. Taylor Winnington, from 12th Foot, to be Capt. vice Marsh, who exch.

12th—Capt. Francis Marsh, from 11th Foot, to be Capt. vice Winnington, who exch.

33rd—Capt. Robert Bradfute, from h.p. Unatt. to be Capt. vice John Rowland Smyth, who exch. receiving the diff.

37th—Lieut. Wm. Thomas Rowland Powell to be Capt. by purch. vice Herrick, who retires; Ens. Charles Augustus Parkinson to be Lieut. by purch. vice Powell; Henry John Cuttels, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Parkinson.

53rd—Gent. Cadet Wm. J. Verrier, from the Royal Mil. Col. to be Ensign, without purch. vice Acton, dec.

65th—Paym. Stephen Blake, from 7th Foot, to be Paym. vice Walter Butler, who retires upon h.p. as Capt.

75th—Capt. John Bolton, from h.p. Unatt. to be Capt. vice Wm. Jesse, who exch.

2nd West India Regt.—Lieut. John Godwin, from h.p. 81st Foot, to be Lieut. vice Tew, pro p.

Unatt.—Major Sir Wm. Alexander Maxwell, Bart. from the 1st Drag. Guards, to be Lieut.-Col. without purch.; Lieut. Joseph M'Leod Tew, from 2nd West India Regt. to be Capt. without purch.

Hospital Staff—To be Assist.-Surg. to the Forces, Arthur Chas. Webster, Gent. vice Sparrow, dec.; William Twining, Gent.; Chas. Ross, Gent.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, April 4.

Corps of Royal Engineers—Brevet-Major Gordon to be Lieut.-Col. vice Charles Dixon, placed on the Retired List; 2nd Capt. Richard John Vickers to be Capt. vice Gordon; First Lieut. Benjamin Spicer Stehelin to be Second Capt. vice Vickers; Sec. Lieut. Gotthard Fredericke Man to be First Lieut. vice Stehelin.

WAR OFFICE, April 13.

1st Life Guards—F. Greville, Gent. to be Cornet and Sub-Lieut. by purch. vice the Earl of Clonmel, who retires

13th Light Dragoons—Assist. Surg. T. Hunter,

M.D. from 45th Foot, to be Assist.-Surg. vice Greatrex, appointed to Coldstream Foot Gds.

14th Light Dragoons—Lieut. P. Leary to be Capt. without purch. vice Roys, dec.

1st, or Grenadier Foot Guards—G. E. Blenkins, Gent. to be Assist.-Surg.

7th Foot—Capt. W. Campbell, from 62nd Foot, to be Capt. vice Lord H. F. Chichester, who retires upon h.p. of 9th Foot.

39th—Surg. F. Sievwright, M.D. from 45th Foot, to be Surg. vice Hamilton, who exch.

45th—Surg. A. Hamilton, from 39th Foot, to be Surg. vice Sievwright, pro exch.

46th—Lieut.-Gen. Sir John Keane, K.C.B. from 68th Foot, to be Col. vice Gen. Wynyard, dec.

48th—Capt. G. J. Burslem, from 94th Foot, to be Capt. vice Bell, who exch.

55th—Lieut. J. O. Cusse, from h.p. 45th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Walker, appointed to 88th Ft.

62nd—Capt. O. W. Gray, from h.p. of 9th Foot, to be Capt. vice Campbell, appointed to 7th Foot.

68th—Major-Gen. Sir W. Johnston, K.C.B. to be Colonel, vice Lieut.-Gen. Sir J. Keane, appointed to 46th Foot.

88th—Lieut. J. Walker from 55th Foot, to be Lieut. vice W. H. Woodgate, who retires upon h.p. of 45th Foot.

94th—Capt. W. Bell, from 48th Foot, to be Capt. vice Burslem, who exch.

Royal Malta Fencible Regt.—Lieut. P. Camilleri to be Capt. with local and temporary rank, vice Levick, appointed to 59th Foot; Ensign A. Camilleri to be Lieut. with local and temporary rank, vice Camilleri; Cadet G. Canvarra to be Ensign, with local and temporary rank, vice Canilleri.

Provisional Battalion—Brevet Lieut.-Col. T. Ware to be Lieut. Col. without purch.

Hospital Staff—Dep. Purveyor L. M'Pherson, from h.p. to be Dep. Purveyor to the Forces.

Brevet—Capt. O. W. Gray, 62nd Foot, to be Major in the Army.

Mem.—The name of the Gent. Cadet appointed to an Ensigny in 48th Foot, on 16th March, 1838, is Hulton, and not Hutton.

WAR OFFICE, April 17.

1st Drag. Guards—Staff-Assist.-Surgeon William Parry, to be Surgeon, vice William Jones, who retires upon h.p.

7th Light Dragoons—Assist.-Surgeon James Low Warren, M.D. from 6th Dragoon Guards, to be Surgeon, vice William Dought, who retires upon h.p.

11th Foot—James Stewart, Gent. to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Thom, appointed to the Staff.

HOSPITAL STAFF.

Assistant Surgeon Alexander Thom, from 11th Foot, to be Assistant Surgeon, vice Parry, promoted in 1st Dragoon Guards.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

At Up Park Camp, Jamaica, the Lady of Capt. Palmer, 56th Regt. of a son.
At Torquay, the Lady of Lieut. T. Richmond, R.N. of a son.

March 23rd, at St. Hillier's, the Lady of Lieut F. W. Hill, 10th Regt. of a daughter.

March 25th, at Galway, the Lady of Major St. Lo Malet, 8th Regt. of a daughter.

March 30th, near Exeter, the Lady of Capt. Smyth, Royal Eng. of a daughter.

At Brompton Barracks, Chatham, the Lady of Capt. Sandham, Royal Engineers, of a son.

At Southsea, the Lady of Jason Lardner, Esq. Surgeon, R.N. of a daughter.

At Innishannon, the Lady of Capt. Meade, R.N. of a daughter.

In Bury-street, the Lady of Capt. James, 90th Light Inf. of a daughter.

April 2nd, at Dundalk, the Lady of Capt. W. M. Hughes, 1st Dragoon Guards, of a still-born child.

April 6th, at Brompton Barracks, the Lady of Major Johnston, 44th Regt. of a son.

At St. Lawrence, Isle of Wight, the Lady of Lieut. Keane, R.N. of a son.

At the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, the Lady of Lieut. Cope, Rifle Brigade, of a son.

At Gort, the Lady of Lieut. Stace, Royal Engineers, of a son.

At Rosbeg, Westport, the Lady of Commander Shallard, R.N. of a daughter.

April 14th, at Phillips' Town, King's County, the Lady of Major Holmes, K.H. unattached, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 2nd, at Hyderabad, Lieut.-Col. Craigie, 55th Regt. to Mary Jane, eldest daughter of Lieut.-Col. Freyman, Hon. E. I. Comp. Service.

At Quebec, Lieut. J. Orlebar, R.N. to Harriet, daughter of — Hale, Esq. Receiver-Gen. of Lower Canada.

At Fordham, Lieut. R. C. Tomlinson, R.N. to Mary Penelope, eldest daughter of the Rev. M. Dodd.

At St. Pancras, Capt. D. L. Fawcett, 55th Regt. to Anne daughter of the late R. Porter, Esq.

April 5th, at Ramsgate, Lieut. S. P. Groves, King's Dragoon Guards, to Margaret Calvert, youngest daughter of the late Major Campbell, of Ramsgate.

April 7th, at Ringwould, Kent, Lieut. H. E. Wingrove, R.N. to Sarah, youngest daughter of the late John Morris, Esq. of the Archbishop's Palace, Canterbury.

R. T. Reep, Esq. Purser, R.N. to Elizabeth Dwyer, youngest daughter of the late T. Jewell, Esq., R.N.

April 13th, at Chesterton, Captain Sir D. Dunn, R.N., K.C.H., to Louisa Henrietta, daughter of the late G. Montagu, Esq.

April 16th, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Lieut. H. Brand, Coldstream Guards, second son of the Hon. Lieut.-Gen. Trevor, to Eliza, daughter of Major-Gen. Ellice.

April 17th, at Exeter, by the Rev. R. P. Carrington, the Rev. John Hart, to Maria, daughter of W. B. Hulme, Esq., late Assistant Quarter-Master-General in the Island of Jersey.

DEATHS.

Sept. 10, at Bengal, Lieut. Adams, 16th Regt. At Ceylon, Ensign Carey, 61st Regt.

Dec. 10, at the Cape of Good Hope, Lieut. and Adj. Edden, 27th Regt.

Dec. 24, at sea, Assist.-Surg. Hawthorn, M.D. Staff.

Dec. 26, at sea, Lieut. Nicolls, Royal African Corps.

Jan. 14, at Thornton Hill, near Southampton, Capt. Mainwaring, h.p. R.A.

Jan. 23, at Corfu, Ensign and Adj. Munro, 5th Regt.

Jan. 26, Surg. W. Gordon, h.p. Staff.

Feb. 6, Quartermaster Macdougall, h.p. Argyll Fenc.

Feb. 16, at Forbes, N.B., Surg. E. Adams.

Feb. 16, at Brompton, Surg. E. Smith, h.p. 2nd Gar. Batt.

Feb. 18, on board H.M.S. Romney, at Havannah, Lieut. J. Winn, 1st West India Regt.

Feb. 20, at Lisburne, Ireland, Lieut. Hunter, h.p. 63rd Regt.

Feb. 21, Lieut. Barker, h.p. Royal Regt.

Lieut. Barnwell, h.p. 35th Regt.

Feb. 22, at Naas, Assist.-Surg. Hornfor, h.p. 30th Regt.

March 2, at Birr, Ensign Dickenson, 48th Regt.

March 4, at British Guiana, Major-Gen. Sir James Carmichael Smith, Lieut.-Governor of that colony, and late of the Royal Engineers.

March 4, at Tarbolton, Lieut. Bolton, h.p. 2nd Dragoons.

Capt. Speir, h.p. R.A.

March 11, at Valletta, Malta, suddenly of aneurism of the heart, Capt. F. Pigott, 45th Regt.

March 11, Sir T. Le Breton, Paymaster late 3rd R.V.B.

In France, Lieut. Isaac Habersfield, R.N.

March 17, Quartermaster Bean, h.p. 3rd Dragoons.

March 17, at Harwich, Capt. Carruthers, 67th Regt.

March 23, on passage to Ireland, Captain Brocke, Royal Regt.

March 24, in Edinburgh, Dr. Patrick, Insp.-Gen. of Army Hospitals.

March 24, at Chew Magna, A. White, Esq. Surg. R.N.

March 25, at Dublin, Ensign Acton, 53rd Regt.

At Hasler Hospital, Lieut. Warlett, R.N. com. H.S. steamer Confidence.

At Branscombe, Lieut. M. Hill, R.N. Chief Officer of the Coast Guard Service in that district.

At Larn, Lieut. A. Murray, R.N. Chief Officer of the Coast Guard Service in that district.

At Deal, retired Commander J. Clayson, R.N.

March 31, at Devonport, Capt. Flint, late of 68th Regt.

At Chatham, Second Lieut. F. W. d'Alton, Royal Engineers.

In Upper Brook-street, General H. Winyard, Colonel of the 46th Regiment, aged 76.

At Gortcross, A. Gillman, Esq. Surgeon, R.N.

At Avignon, Capt. Edm. Roys, 14th Light Dragoons.

April 4, in London, Capt. Braham, 78th Regt.

April 4, H. D. Morrison, Esq. Surgeon, R.N.

At Harold's Cross, Dublin, Lieut. Sullivan, R.N.

W. Donaldson, Esq. Surgeon, R.N.

At Taunton, retired Commander C. Spencer, R.N.

April 7th, at his residence at Southsea, Rear-Admiral John Hayes, C.B.

April 12, in Clarges-street, Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Richard Dyer, Bt. of Ovington, Hunts.

April 13, at Oriel Lodge, Cheltenham, retired Commander C. Sheldon Timins, R.N.

April 13th, at Urney, Co. Tyrone, Lieut. John Semple, of the late Royal Irish Artillery, and Brigade-Major of Yeomanry.

April 16, at Teignmouth, Devon, Rear-Admiral George Tobin, C.B. aged 68.

April 16, at Paris, Capt. Lewis Shephard, R.N. in his 65th year.

April 18, at Lympstone, Devonshire, W. C. Callow, Esq., M.D., Surgeon of the 6th or Enniskillen Dragoons.

April 24th, at his residence, the Pavilion, Hampton Court Palace, Lieut.-General James Moore, in his 78th year.

The late Lieut.-Col. Balfour, whose death we recorded in our March No., entered the Army as an Ensign in the 40th Regiment of Foot, in 1799.

Immediately after his appointment, he sailed

with his regiment in the expedition to the Ilekler, and is there mentioned as having distinguished himself, in a letter from the late General Sir John Moore to his mother (published in his life). "Young Balfour's regiment suffered much on the 19th. His Colonel told me he behaved with marked spirit and gallantry. Let his father and mother know this."

He obtained his Lieutenancy by purchase in 1800. Whilst in Holland, he attracted the notice and gained the friendship of the Colonel of his regiment, the late General Sir Brent Spencer. When that distinguished officer, obtained the rank of Brigadier-General, he immediately, and without solicitation, placed Lieut. Balfour on his Staff. In 1804, young Balfour was promoted, by purchase, to a company in the 40th. He accompanied General Spencer to the Mediterranean.

In 1807, Major-General Spencer obtained command of a brigade in the expedition to Copenhagen under Lord Cathcart, where Capt. Balfour accompanied him as Aide-Camp, and, by his uniform, zealous, and gallant conduct, secured the esteem of his brethren in arms. At Copenhagen he had a horse shot under him. Balfour remained on the Staff of Sir Brent Spencer until he obtained his majority, which he did in 1808. He then joined the 2nd Battalion of the 40th Regiment in Ireland.

In 1813, he joined the 1st Battalion of the 40th at Passages, and was present at the battles of "Nivelle," "Nive," "Orthes," and "Tou-

louse." Sir Lowry Cole, who commanded the 4th Division of the Army, was pleased to recommend Major Balfour for promotion, on account of his gallantry and good conduct while with the army in Spain and France. Accordingly, he obtained his Lieut.-Colonelcy in April, 1814.

Colonel Balfour remained on half-pay for three years; he then got on full-pay in the 3rd or Buffs, but soon effected an exchange into his old regiment, the 40th.

He accompanied them to New South Wales, where he sustained the greatest possible loss in the death of his wife.

Whilst in Van Diemen's Land, the Colonel, by his constant zeal for the public service, gained the approbation of the well-disposed of the colony; in particular of the Governor, Major-General Arthur.

In 1827, he returned with his children to England, and exchanged into the 69th Regt., at that time in the Mauritius. He there joined that corps, and, from his seniority, was commandant of Port Louis.

He returned with the regiment in 1832 to this country, and gave up the public service, by selling his commission of Lieut.-Colonel, in 1833.

Since his retirement he has lived principally in England, and for some time previous to his death, which happened the 10th of February last, he had suffered much from bad health, the effect of a residence in a tropical climate.

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER,

KEPT AT THE OBSERVATORY OF CAPT. W. H. SMYTH, AT BEDFORD.

MARCH, 1838.	Six's Thermometer.		At 3 P. M.			Ther- mo- meter Inches.	Evapora- tor Inches.	Winds at 3 P. M.
	Maxim. Degrees.	Minim. Degrees.	Barom. Inches.	Thermo. Degrees.	Hygrom. Farts.			
1	41.3	38.9	29.13	41.3	862	.300	—	S.E. light airs, cloudy
2	41.8	40.1	29.18	41.0	859	.075	.025	N. nearly calm
3	41.9	39.5	29.22	40.4	853	.026	.030	N. overcast
4	40.5	36.8	29.08	38.3	851	.193	.035	N. incessant rain
5	41.9	38.1	29.85	41.3	851	—	.038	S.W. beautiful day
6	45.6	40.0	29.79	42.8	799	.175	.042	S.S.W. str. breezes, fine
7	49.3	38.1	29.85	44.3	722	—	.065	W. beautiful day
8	44.3	39.4	30.20	43.8	682	.052	.075	N.W. fresh breezes
9	46.9	37.0	30.20	45.8	675	—	.056	E.N.E. lt. airs, fine
10	45.9	38.1	29.91	42.3	671	—	.058	S.S.E. fresh breeze
11	50.0	38.0	29.82	46.6	595	—	.070	E. light airs, and fine
12	46.5	37.2	30.16	46.5	634	—	.060	E. magnificent day
13	47.0	41.2	30.02	45.3	740	.025	.052	S.W. fresh breezes, equal
14	48.8	43.6	30.00	48.8	818	.005	.050	S.W. squally weather
15	49.4	40.8	29.98	47.5	696	—	.060	N. light airs, fine
16	50.0	38.5	29.67	43.5	683	.105	.065	S.S.W. strong gales
17	48.6	37.2	29.40	44.2	622	.079	.075	W. a fine day
18	50.5	37.2	29.61	43.8	632	—	.070	W.N.W. light airs, fine
19	43.8	40.1	29.64	42.4	703	.059	.060	S.W. light breeze, cloudy
20	50.5	42.0	29.21	42.7	571	.022	.075	W.S.W. furious gale
21	52.2	38.1	29.35	45.0	572	.025	.080	S.W. violent gales
22	43.0	39.2	29.52	40.9	642	.043	.060	N. strong breezes
23	40.6	35.0	29.55	39.8	620	—	.070	W.N.W. fr. breeze, cloudy
24	42.7	35.8	29.55	41.8	606	—	.090	S. beautiful weather
25	44.6	38.0	29.96	44.6	591	—	.090	W.S.W. fine day
26	44.9	35.8	30.13	43.3	610	—	.096	E.S.E. calm, fine day
27	55.8	39.8	30.30	55.8	390	—	.045	W.S.W. magnificent day
28	56.5	49.5	30.22	54.2	522	—	.105	E. calm, splendid day
29	58.8	42.1	30.53	58.8	416	—	.110	E. light airs, fine
30	59.6	49.9	30.38	58.0	620	—	.120	W.N.W. beautiful day
31	50.8	45.0	30.24	46.8	528	—	.080	N.E. light breeze, cloudy

THE CANADIAN REVOLT:

A SHORT REVIEW OF ITS CAUSES, PROGRESS, AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES.

It is now pretty generally admitted that this wanton and wicked rebellion was alike unforeseen and unprovided for, both by the local and the metropolitan Governments; and although it may not have required the subtle spirit of a Fouché to fathom the conspiracy, it is but justice towards these authorities to state that until blood had actually been shed, very many of the best-informed men in the colony believed that not all the influence of Papineau and his colleagues—however irresistible on the hustings, and dominant in the senate—would suffice to rouse his torpid and timid countrymen into armed resistance to the Queen's authority: and yet no doubt is now entertained of the existence—for months previous to any overt act of resistance to the laws—of an extensive, if not a general system of organization, for the avowed object of intimidating the Government into an unconditional compliance with the wishes and demands of the leaders of the "mouvement;" and, finally, if deemed expedient, of overthrowing the Regal Government, and erecting a Republic on its ruins.

There is something so Quixotic in the very idea of a systematic and deliberate trial of strength between the scattered and scanty population of Lower Canada and the colossal power of Great Britain, aided by the great bulk of the British inhabitants of North America, that nothing less than the evidence that late events have furnished could have persuaded us that a race of men were to have been found so insensate and enslaved to the will of a mad and mendacious demagogue, as to rush from the enjoyment of social happiness and the most perfect civil liberty into a blind contest with a parent state, which, step-children as they were, had governed them with lenity and justice, and treated them with kindness and affection: in more instances than one at the expense too of her own legitimate offspring. One would naturally conclude that some sudden and grievous wrongs had driven a people so situated to desperation, and plunged them headlong into the revolting struggle! Yet nothing would be further from the truth than this conjecture, for the habitants of Lower Canada never had a voice in the fearful question, propounded and resolved on in the secret councils of their chiefs. Clanish, credulous, and confiding; grossly ignorant of their political condition, as of the nature and tendency of the changes which were sought for, they implicitly obeyed the mandates of the dark and ruthless traitor to whom they had committed the destinies of their unhappy country.

To the chiefs of the revolt it must be owned that the contest may not have appeared to be of so desperate a character as we have represented it. They had still something to gain: they may have hoped by intimidation from the trimming policy and compliant temper of the Government: they saw the country left to the defence of a very small and widely-dispersed body of troops: they had much to expect from the effects of radical sympathy in England, France, and the United States; and with the democrats of the latter countries they were certainly in communication; and might reasonably expect to find, as they

have found, a treasury and an arsenal, with officers and men in, both, ready to support their cause! They saw the approach of a polar winter, cutting off, as they supposed, all the external resources of the colony, and giving them immense advantage from their numbers and extended plan of operations over a mere handful of troops, ill prepared, and unaccustomed to contend, in active warfare, with the severity of such a climate. In a word, the conspirators could never hope to be again in possession of so fair a field of action as was now presented to them; and in entering boldly on the contest, they calculate, confidently—events have proved how justly—that the first success would bring them such reinforcements from beyond the frontier as would put their cause out of immediate danger, and eventually drag the States into the quarrel. To her troops and their energetic leader England is alone indebted for the prevention of these disastrous consequences! The sword has again redeemed the errors of the pen, and vindicated the insulted majesty of the laws!

We do not mean by these remarks to hold her Majesty's present Ministers responsible for that mistaken policy towards Canada which has led to such deplorable results. In its general scope and application their policy was substantially the same as that adopted by the last two Tory administrations which preceded them and which had recently received the sanction and approval of the Imperial Parliament. But to them does assuredly attach the blame of having followed out that system long after it had ceased to hold out a prospect of success, and of having persevered in it until conciliation was mistaken for weakness, and a hostile combination formed, subversive of the sovereignty of the country.

We have for years past watched attentively the progress of events in Canada. We have seen concession after concession made—made unwisely, and in vain—to the lust for power of a dominant republican faction—hostile to our laws, our institutions, and our race! We have seen her Majesty's Government, her representative, her people and her Parliament, treated by a knot of factious demagogues with scorn, insult, and contempt! We have seen demands put forth and resolutely insisted on in a British colony totally incompatible with British supremacy and connexion; and it grieves us to add, we have seen these revolutionary and seditious demands gravely entertained and calmly investigated by a British Government! This was carrying conciliation and forbearance far beyond the farthest barrier of the constitution! The result has been a civil war!

Let us take a short review of the several stages of this extraordinary struggle for ascendancy between a mild, paternal Government and a people enjoying as much real freedom, and as entire an exemption from the burthens of taxation, as any nation on the globe. It has been said that the seeds of this revolt may be found in the constitutional act of 1791; and it was certainly a bold if not a hazardous experiment to entrust a representative system, upon so broad a basis, to a conquered people, wholly uneducated and untrained to constitutional privileges, brought up in feelings of deep-rooted hostility towards us, and in habits and customs adapted to the despotic rule to which they had been previously subjected. But it was not unreasonably presumed by the great and generous framer of the Canadian "Bill of Rights" that so noble a concession would for ever conciliate the affections of these new subjects

of the Crown; and but for some of the provisions which accompanied the splendid gift, such as the retention of French laws, language, &c., there is reason to conclude that, under firm and steady government, a measure so worthy of success might have secured the lasting peace and prosperity of the colony. That the system worked well for many years has not been questioned or denied; and the conduct of the Canadians during the last American war might alone suffice to prove that they were happy and contented with their lot. How comes it then that a few short years have worked so dire a change in the feelings of this once loyal people? Their rights or privileges have never been invaded, and their institutions have been expanded, if not improved, to an extent that marks the ready acquiescence of the Government in every wish that might with safety be conceded. But here, as elsewhere, the declamations of a hardened band of political adventurers have been mistaken in Downing Street for the voice of the people, and by pandering to these demagogues an absolute dictatorship was erected in the province—a power above the law, whose will speedily became absolute over an ignorant and infatuated peasantry, and whose inordinate ambition and unrelenting hatred of British dynasty, has been gradually preparing the public mind for that crisis, which was to produce the separation of the colony from its kind and too indulgent parent and protectress.

The first serious differences between the local Executive and the House of Assembly grew out of the stoppage of the Parliamentary grants, voted in support of the civil establishment of the province: the application to the Assembly for the means of supplying the deficiency being met by a demand for the surrender of the Crown revenues, which to a certain extent still secured the necessary independence of the judges and the officers of the Government, and over which the House now, for the first time, asserted a right of appropriation and control. From this hour peace and harmony, as well as mutual confidence between the several branches of the Legislature, ceased to exist in Lower Canada; and it may be with truth affirmed that these paltry financial squabbles, in connexion with the provision of a respectable and permanent civil list from colonial resources, have been the fertile source and leading cause of all the troubles and dissensions which have occurred in British North America.

We are not disposed to go into any lengthened examination of the yielding policy that has for some time past obtained in Downing-street, in reference to the casual and territorial revenues of the Crown, which had long been the only, or, at least, the most efficient check upon popular encroachment, and upon the wanton and tyrannical exercise of the ill-understood, and in the hands of ignorant or seditious men, the dangerous power of stopping the supplies, as a means of coercing the two first branches of the legislature.

The right advanced by, and conceded to, the Houses of Assembly, of controlling and appropriating the proceeds of the Royal domain, or, as it is termed, the wild lands of the Crown, appears to us to be as unsound in theory, as it will be found mischievous in practice. Even in the American Union this right has never been conceded to the people who inhabit "the territories" of the Republic, until these great portions of the federal association attain a certain population, and, arriving at

maturity, assume the character of "sovereign and independent States." How absurd, then, to grant such privileges to a "dependent colony!"

The difficulties of this question are, however, supposed to have been obviated by the stipulation for a moderate permanent Civil List, in exchange for the Crown revenues; but we have seen enough of the temper and proceedings of colonial assemblies to cause some apprehension, that this arrangement, however permanent its nature, however moderate in amount, will not prevent periodical discussions in regard to it, or save the public functionaries, who are dependent on it, from the invidious and painful consequences—wholly destructive of all proper respect towards them—of having their merits, services, and salaries frequently canvassed, with as much warmth and as pernicious an effect as if these salaries were subject to annual revision, and drawn direct from the pockets of the people. Well indeed if worse do not ensue, and the fluctuations of the ceded revenue and its probable ultimate decrease become a new reason for insisting on a corresponding reduction of the Civil List. Be this as it may, the quiet working of our colonial institutions now rests upon the frail security which the maintenance of sound constitutional principles, by popular bodies not being remarkable for wisdom or discretion, may afford. To us it seems that there is one essential distinction between colonial and metropolitan government, which has been wholly overlooked in these financial arrangements; and that in remunerating from local funds a Governor exercising delegated powers, and responsible for his acts only to his Sovereign and the Imperial Parliament, the natural dependence of the colony upon the parent State has been materially impaired. While the Crown revenues remained at the disposal of the Sovereign, this growing evil was kept down: now, wherever they have been resigned, they are considered only as part and parcel of the general income of the colony, upon which certain useless and idle functionaries are suffered to fatten and grow rich.

So far, indeed, has petty parsimony and the retrenching mania been carried, that we see General Officers sent to command the troops on foreign stations whose military services are defrayed from the reduced emoluments of their civil appointments. The very reverse of this would have been more befitting the character of England, and more in accordance with her interests. Her General Officers sent to command and govern in her colonies should be paid liberally in their military capacity, and rendered wholly independent of the civil emoluments of office. Had this plan been adopted, and the royal revenues been reserved, we should never, perhaps, have heard of a Canadian rebellion, which promises to swallow up, in a few short months, all the clippings and parings of the last ten years.

The proceedings of the Canada Committee of 1828 are too generally known to require more than a brief notice here. Its Report contained recommendations for the redress of every real and alleged grievance existing in the colony, as submitted to Parliament in a petition from the Provincial Assembly, and sustained by the oral testimony of delegates from that body. This Report was received by the unanimous voice of the Assembly as an infallible guide to the full and satisfactory adjustment of every known grievance existing in the colony, and it was hoped that a safe and sufficient measure had at length been indicated for the removal of every cause of Canadian discontent. Encouraged with

this hope, the Ministers of the Crown proceeded in their task with a sincerity and good faith that have never been called in question; and in some instances they even outstripped the recommendations of the Committee, liberal as they were, on every point submitted to its judgment. The result of this hearty endeavour to conciliate the affection and good will of the Canadian reformers was a failure. The more moderate and respectable of the party, it is true, were satisfied, and gave in their adhesion to the Government. But this, far from weakening the influence of Papineau over his subservient vassals, only served to place him more prominently in the fore-ground, as the great champion of Canadian liberty. The revolutionists, forming an immense majority of Papineau's packed assembly, became only more united in their purpose, and more audacious in their demands, in consequence of their separation from the "constitutional reformers." The line of demarcation drawn by the Constitution, between the several branches of the Legislature, was speedily passed by the lower House, and the organic changes, involving the absolute surrender of the sovereignty of the country to that body, were resolutely insisted on as the only means of restoring permanent tranquillity to the province. The latent views of the Assembly were no longer doubtful, and it might have been expected that a vigilant Government would have paused in the useless and dangerous attempt to satisfy a party determined to emancipate itself from all control. But the Government did not pause! The colonial minister, in the plenitude of his confidence, yielded to the Assembly, in 1831, the Crown revenues from which the expenses of the civil establishment were defrayed, without a stipulation for any provision, for that service, in exchange; and in thus removing the only remaining check upon the arrogance and encroachments of that House, the Secretary of State placed a weapon in the hands of Mr. Papineau, who proved himself but too conversant with its use, and wielded it so successfully, that the feeble attempt afterwards made to wrest it from his grasp produced, as might have been foreseen, open defiance and resistance.

The cession of these revenues was undoubtedly the great and crowning error of the ministerial policy. It enabled Papineau to enter fearlessly upon the intimidation system—enabled him to agitate with energy and effect, and to prepare the minds of his besotted countrymen for that conflict which he knew to be approaching.

The last and most active period in the progress of Canadian discontent commenced with Lord Gosford's administration, and the appointment of the contentious commission, of which he was the head. There is no doubt that the jarring and injudicious proceedings of the Board detracted largely from the respect due to their office, and to the weight that might have attached to their opinions, if they did not widen the breach which they were sent to examine and repair. But the time for inquiry had gone by. Elective councils, and an executive Government responsible to Mr. Papineau, were demands beyond the pale of the British Constitution, and needed no investigation; while the other claims of the Assembly were so palpably inconsistent with the honour of the Crown and the faith of the Imperial Parliament, that a minister less bold than Lord Glenelg has proved himself, in introducing—for good or for evil—great changes into other colonies, might, with little risk, have disposed of such questions as were here propounded, without aggravating local jealousies and dissensions, by sending out an

indiscreet and expensive delegation to record in writing the utter impracticability of engrafting republican principles upon monarchical institutions.

The Report of this Commission has been long before the world, and teeming as it does with crude theories, conflicting opinions, and suggested reforms of no questionable tendency, it has now become a manual in Downing Street for the *précis* writers on North American affairs. Upon this Report Lord John Russell's untoward Bill of 1837 was based, and a more abortive measure was never carried through the House of Commons. The circumstances which rendered the intervention of the Imperial Parliament imperative, urgently demanded that this exercise of jurisdiction should be powerful and decisive. But the Bill was one of those mere temporary expedients which are only resorted to by small statesmen on occasions of emergency. It carried all the odium of a violation of the provincial constitution without providing any permanent or efficient remedy for the inveterate disorder it was intended to remove; and—will it be believed?—this instrument of authority was hurled at a half insurgent people with no better guarantee for its success than the expiring influence of the mild and passive Earl of Gosford. Nor is this all! the ministry, as if alarmed at their own energy and boldness, had no sooner clothed their bantling with the ostentatious care due to its high calling, than they abandoned it entirely, and turned to the military chest, as the safest and readiest means of escape from their dilemma. Could such vacillation fail to be construed as weakness by men ripe and eager for revolt? The empire of opinion was destroyed, while that of strength was not displayed, and the unhappy colony was left to struggle with its difficulties, and to futile endeavours to pacify a spirit, fierce, hostile, and determined, which force alone could quell.

The inadequacy of the military establishment at this important crisis was unquestionably the immediate cause of that appeal to arms, which a timely demonstration of more ample means would assuredly have prevented; and it will not be easy to justify those who neglected to use a preventive measure calculated to avert so serious a calamity. Had Lord John Russell's Bill—lame and imperfect as it was—been frankly carried into operation, supported by a sufficient force to overawe the disaffected, we should not now be called on to regret the past, or look forward with some forebodings to the future. Jonathan has proved himself to be at best a false friend and slippery neighbour, and his hostile interference in our domestic quarrel must lead to some awkward explanations.

Such are the leading causes, remote and proximate, as we find them recorded and have seen them in operation, which have led to the insurrection in the Canadas; and we now proceed to show how military energy, valour, and devotion, crushed with rapid and vigorous execution that rebellious spirit which had been so long fostered and nourished to maturity by political error, weakness, and delusion.

In August last the Legislature of Lower Canada met for the last time, and, after another short burst of violence and sedition from the House of Assembly, that body finally separated; and, by its voluntary abrogation of its functions, virtually suspended the Constitution of the province. The die was cast! The chiefs of the revolt had now firmly resolved upon their course. The plot was ripe, and the whole ma-

chinery of revolution was put at once in motion. Popular meetings were held, where British connexion was openly denounced and resistance to the laws was inculcated; and at one of these assemblages held early in October, at the village of St. Charles, where, in the words of a clear and correct narrative of the revolt lately published in 'The New York Albion,' and from which we shall occasionally make extracts, "the representatives of six united counties bound themselves by the strongest obligations, under the sound of cannon and musketry, and in language the most bitter and seditious, to form one great confederation as a nucleus for the whole province, elect their town magistrates, enrol and arm themselves, and resist the Government and its officers as much as lay in their power. This was accompanied by a most insulting resolution, inviting the British soldiers to desert—an insult which these gallant fellows have since washed out in blood." "Secret enrolments," continues the narrative further on, "were steadily going on amongst the habitants of the associated counties—the people were coming stealthily—bodies of armed men met for drill in various parts of the Montreal district, and the very young heroes, the *fils de la liberté*, in the suburbs of the city itself."

* During these violent and alarming proceedings, what, it may be asked, was the Executive Government doing? Lord Gosford, still labouring in the spirit of his ill-fated mission, and with the forbearance, if we may honestly use the word, of a kind and benevolent disposition, little suited to the stern and iron temper of the times, endeavoured to reclaim the wavering and restrain the disaffected by the ordinary operation of laws already trampled in the dust! and it was not until late in August that a suspicion of the real state of affairs seemed to gleam across his mind. A single regiment had been drawn from Halifax, leaving only three weak battalions behind it in the lower provinces; but it does not appear to have occurred to his Lordship or to the Government at home, that it might be expedient not only to replace this corps but to increase the garrison of Halifax to an extent that might afford timely succour, if required, at any period during winter, and without exciting that jealousy, which is the poor apology now offered for having neglected during the summer to pour into Lower Canada such a force as would have effectually preserved the peace and provided for the safety of the country.

In the mean time the military commander, Sir John Colborne, without, perhaps, suspecting the extent or desperate character of the conspiracy, proceeded to make such preparations and arrangements as prudence dictated. Treason was openly abroad, and he could not but perceive that the military power might, at any moment, be called on to supersede the impotent arm of the civil authority. Sir John established himself at Montreal, and concentrating his small force at that central point, as the future pivot of his operations, fortified and placed the city out of danger, formed magazines, organised and armed the loyal militia of the country, which, with one or two base exceptions, might have included every man of British descent within the province, and thus stood prepared for the result, with a calm energy and quiet resolution, that at once restored hope and confidence to every loyal mind. The regular force stationed in the two Canadas is extremely small; how small need not be told to those who can calculate what five six-company battalions on a foreign station may muster in the field. This force is usually distributed along an extensive line of posts, of many hundred miles, from

Quebec to Toronto; and the necessity of keeping a strong garrison in the "North American citadel" left but a mere handful disposable for active service. But these were the representatives of the soldiers of Salamanca and of Waterloo, carrying in their hearts and on their colours the *prestige* of a hundred victories, and no man knew better than Colborne the stern and unconquerable stuff of which they were composed. To the talent, firmness, and capacity of this man, England is indebted, under Providence, for the safety of her colony, and for crushing, with little loss or bloodshed, the most daring and malignant attempt to overthrow a lenient and benignant Government that has disgraced this or any other age.

But the civil authorities still continued to follow out their hopeless measures, and resolved to drain the cup of humiliating weakness to the dregs. Lord Gosford, unwearied in his exertions to avert the impending struggle, continued to denounce sedition and to promise pardon on submission. His threats and promises were alike unheeded, and he received his final answer in the first volley fired by the rebels at Sonquill. This was on the 7th of November, when the civil war commenced.

The explosion of the plot, it is believed, was premature. The intention of the conspirators was to have declared their independence on the 15th of December, when their plans had reached maturity, and that equivocal season had arrived when both the roads and rivers would be impassable for troops. St. Denis and St. Charles on the Chambly river were to be made the strong holds of the rebels, where, with their backs to the States, and an open communication with their numerous friends and allies in that country, they might organise their means, and bid defiance to the troops until the proper time arrived for assuming the offensive. A similar organisation on a larger scale was in progress in the Grand Brûlé district to the north of the St. Lawrence; and when both parties were prepared for action, Montreal was to be assaulted on all sides; and, with their numerous partisans within the garrison, no doubt was entertained of the result.

To anticipate the designs of the conspirators was precisely what the aspect of affairs demanded; and, taking the initiative, Sir John Colborne forced the rebels, by his activity and vigilance, to commence the conflict before their preparations were complete. From his central position he had watched the proceedings of the insurgents in the disturbed districts, embracing six counties, and extending in a circle of fifty or sixty miles around Montreal, and at the right time and place he struck the blow that effectually paralysed the operations of the rebels, and checked the widely and rapidly-extending spirit of revolt. His measures were as prompt as they proved to be judicious.

On the 22nd of November a combined movement was directed on the rebel camp at St. Denis and St. Charles. Colonel Gore, with about 300 men and a howitzer, descending the St. Lawrence, landed at Sorel, and was ordered to move upon St. Denis; while another column of 400 men, with two guns, commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Wetherell, was directed by way of Chambly on St. Charles. A simultaneous attack on the two villages was, beyond a doubt, contemplated and desired, but concentric movements undertaken from distant points, and without assured and easy communication, are, under the ablest commanders, in small as in large bodies, subject to derangement; and in the present instance obstacles and mischances intervened to frustrate the execution of

the plan. The roads and weather proved much worse than was expected; the officer sent from one column to the other, with orders and intelligence which might have served to regulate the movement, was taken and cruelly murdered by the enemy; and the steam-boat, ordered up the Richelieu river with provisions and supplies for Colonel Gore's detachment, was fired upon and compelled to return.

Lieut.-Colonel Wetherell was delayed, and for a time arrested in his progress, by the unforeseen difficulties he encountered, while Colonel Gore, entirely ignorant of this detention, made a night march on St. Denis, exposed to a pelting storm of snow and sleet, and during which the men were up to their knees in half frozen mud. In a state of absolute exhaustion these brave fellows reached the village of St. Denis on the following morning, and found the enemy so strongly posted and protected as to preclude all hope of getting at them. The attempt was, however, made with the usual intrepidity of British soldiers; the howitzer was pointed at a large stone house that formed the key of the position, but no impression was made upon it; and after many brave and persevering efforts to penetrate this formidable barrier, the enterprise was given up as hopeless, and the troops returned to Sorel, worn out with cold, hunger, and fatigue, but with the proud consciousness of having done their duty. On the way back the howitzer was frozen in the mud, and resisted every effort made to extricate it.

Lieutenant-Colonel Wetherell's column did not reach St. Charles until the morning of the 25th:—

"They found M. Debatsch's house, and part of the village, strongly stockaded and defended by 1400 or 1500 men, inspired by the recent repulse of Colonel Gore's detachment, well armed, and having two guns commanding the principal approaches. Colonel Wetherell halted when within musket range, and displayed his force, from a humane desire to spare life; but perceiving that his forbearance was construed into fear, and that a sharp and well-sustained fire was opened upon him, he enlisted and knocked over the palisades with his artillery, after silencing the enemy's guns, formed line, and charged with the bayonet under the old British cheer. Though four or five to one in number, the poor wretches, who had hitherto withstood fire well, soon broke, but not before the troops were amongst them. Between 200 and 300 were killed, and the remainder fled in all directions, spreading terror and dismay far and near. Colonel Wetherell had three killed and seventeen wounded, only, for the Canadians fired badly.

"The route at St. Charles produced such consternation in the neighbourhood that Nelson's people at St. Denis, although flushed with the late success, abandoned that post immediately; but finding that Colonel Wetherell did not advance, Mr. Nelson was able to collect a few of them again in two or three days, and was beginning to reinspire them with some degree of confidence. This, however, did not last long, for Colonel Gore, with a stronger force, three guns, and a supply of Congreve rockets, moved again upon Sorel on the 1st instant, took St. Denis without opposition, regained his howitzer, and burned Mr. Nelson's house and distillery, with all the other houses from whence the soldiers had been fired upon. He then proceeded to St. Charles, and scoured the country as far as the neighbourhood of St. Hyacinth, on the Yamaska river, without seeing the face of a rebel."*

* Narrative published in the New York Albion.

The villages on the Richelieu—the hot-beds of the revolt—were thus in a few days cleared of the enemy and reduced to subjection; and it must be owned that the rebels showed but little of that spirit and resolution in the fight which might have been expected from the insolence and audacity of their previous conduct. But it was now evident that the great mass of the habitants were tainted with disaffection, and a large proportion of them corrupted to the core; and it became the duty of a wise and prudent general to call for every disposable soldier within his reach. The Government had shut its eyes to the impending danger—the navigation of the St. Lawrence was now closed for the winter from the sea—and the three weak battalions stationed in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were the only succour he could hope for until spring. These corps were promptly placed at his disposal; and, leaving the Lower Provinces to the protection of a loyal people, performed—in succession, during the depth of a Polar winter, and with the loss of a single man, from a cause unconnected with the march—one of the most remarkable movements upon record. The distance from Halifax to Quebec is little short of 700 miles, and a considerable part of the line passes through a desert wilderness where there is not the vestige of a path. Why these two sections of our North American dominions have so long remained disjointed, let those who can explain! The movement was thus necessarily suspended until the rivers and lakes had frozen, and sufficient snow had fallen to form a sleigh road, when the troops were put in motion upon sleighs, furnished and conducted by the bold and hardy teamsters of New Brunswick, and, traversing the inhospitable and desolate region that lies between Medeweska and the “*Rivière de Loup*,” they descended into the valley of the St. Lawrence, with a rapidity that excited surprise, if not consternation, in the Canadian villages below Quebec. The moral influence of this movement was immense; it struck to the heart the disaffected—crushed every hope they had entertained from the “sympathy” of their sister provinces—and convinced the world that there is no season at which Britain cannot reinforce her colony, while she possesses soldiers whose dauntless spirits never quailed before a foe, or recoiled from any trial or exertion, however rigorous or severe. During the march the thermometer ranged from zero to 20° below it.

This timely addition to his force enabled Sir John Colborne to act with renewed vigour and success. He knew the importance of incurring no undue risk—he saw that any success over the troops might produce a general rising, and peril the existence of the colony; he had, therefore, waited until his reinforcements were at hand before he ventured to order up one of the two corps left to garrison Quebec. Providence seemed to second all his plans, for the river remaining open to an unusually late period enabled him on (we think) the 9th or 10th December to bring up the 83rd from Quebec to Montreal by steam.

No time was now lost in adopting measures against the Grand Brûlé insurgents, who were reported to be in great strength under a wretch named Gerod, and whose cruelties and outrages had driven from their homes all the peaceful and loyal inhabitants of this section of the province.

“Accordingly, on the 13th December, three British regiments—Royals, 32nd, and 83rd—a squadron of volunteer cavalry, and a corps of infantry, with six guns, forming a force of 1600 men, marched out

of Montreal amidst loud and long-continued cheering. Two short marches brought them to the bank opposite St. Eustache, the principal position of the rebels. Before crossing the river some harmless shots were fired from the church at St. Eustache, which had been barricaded and strongly garrisoned. Several other buildings were also found occupied in force; and 1000 of the rebels had been mustered that morning, although, on the approach of the troops, it was computed that 300 or 400 of them had fled. It was thus a melancholy spectacle to witness so hopeless a struggle. As soon as the artillery had crossed, the church was attacked, and the infantry were posted under cover. The church was a strong stone building, with very thick walls, and, consequently, stood a good deal of battering from the light guns. At length the sacristy adjoining the church, and the church itself, were set on fire, and stormed by the Royal Regiment, with scarcely any loss. The insurgents then attempted to escape; but about 100 of them, including Dr. Chenier, their leader, were killed, and 120 taken prisoners.

"The insurrection in this neighbourhood having been thus effectually crushed, Colonel Maitland, with the 32nd Regiment, was despatched to St. Scholastique and St. Theresa to collect arms and receive the submission of the peasantry, and the Commander of the Forces, with the troops from Montreal, returned home."*

This, so far as the Lower Canadians are concerned, may be considered as the termination of internal opposition to the Queen's authority; and but for that treacherous and hostile interference of a neighbouring country in our domestic quarrel, which must reflect indelible disgrace upon the American character and institutions, there is not the smallest reason to doubt that peace and submission to the laws would have been immediately restored to the distracted colony.

We do not deem it necessary to allude to the contemptible outbreak in the Upper Province. But for the new field which this event afforded for the exercise of American hatred and hostility, it could have had no influence upon the state of affairs in Lower Canada; and we must, therefore, view the contest from this time forward in the novel and formidable light of an attack by a foreign power upon a friendly government, and upon the dearest rights and liberties of an unoffending kindred people.

We have dwelt at little length upon the military operations of the Canadian conflict, because, in truth, however honorable to the troops and their Commander, their details would not afford much matter of general interest. It is not in a warfare with a wretched and misguided peasantry that the patriot soldier seeks to gather laurels—he performs his bitterest, although most sacred, duty when internal tumult calls him to the field, and none rejoice more sincerely than himself when the restoration of the civil power enables him to sheath his sword. Let it be, however, said, that never were the sterling qualities of the British soldier shown more conspicuously than on this occasion—never did his fortitude, endurance, and deep devotion to his Sovereign and his duty, shine forth more brightly. One example may suffice: in peaceful times the besetting sin of North American stations is desertion—since the commencement of the contest *one case only has occurred!*

* Narrative published in the New York Albion.

It grieves us to be obliged to notice, in terms of reprobation and disgust, the conduct of the American citizens and authorities since the commencement of our troubles. It is a delicate subject, and we shall, therefore, touch upon it lightly, feeling as we do the full importance of maintaining amicable relations with the States, if this may yet be done with safety and with honour. The frontiers of the Union are peopled by as lawless and restless a race of miscreants as any in the world. Living beyond the wholesome influence of vigorous laws, and contemning all authority, they hold both their State and General Government in contempt, and mock at all interference with their views and wishes. How uncontrolled and uncontrollable, their late conduct, and the confessions of their subservient government, sufficiently attest. These men have for the last four months kept our extended frontiers, from Nickigau to Maine, in constant apprehension of insult and aggression. They have fostered and encouraged the expiring embers of rebellion—they have received and armed the traitors, who fled into their country—organised expeditions against us—and have actually invaded our territories, and waged war against us. Their most recent exploit took place near Amherstburgh, where a large body of Americans took possession of a British island, and were prepared to carry the war into our country. The result is contained in the already published dispatch of Colonel Maitland, commanding on that part of the frontier, giving an account of the forcible expulsion of these ruffians from our soil, with a loss on our side of thirty brave men, and on theirs of a much larger number.

It was our intention when we sat down to draw up this narrative, to have entered on an examination of the consequences which might have been expected to flow from this rebellion. We intended to have shown that, far from weakening, it must, under wise and constitutional government, have strengthened and consolidated our empire in the West. We anticipated the happiest results from the impulse which late events had given to the public mind in regard to the affairs of Canada. We intended to have shown the objections to the re-union of the Canadas, and the impolicy of the projected centralisation scheme under the auspices of Lord Durham, whose supercession of the able and experienced officer who now administers the Government will not, we fear, hasten the millenium. We might have proved also that the reduction of an army to the lowest scale is not always a measure of economy; and we might have hinted, for Lord Howick's edification, the propriety of instituting a comparison between the relative expense incurred in the maintenance of Regulars and Militia. But all these considerations are for the present swallowed up in the engrossing question that has now arisen in reference to the continuance of hostilities on the part of our faithless and perfidious neighbours. Things have been carried too far upon our frontier to be easily arrested or passed over lightly; and the "baneful domination of the mob" is too complete beyond that line to afford much hope of that atonement from the American Government which nation's honour now demands. The day of retribution must come—would that we could think it may arrive without the intervention of the sword!

THE ROYAL NAVY : MANNING THE FLEET

IN this the sequel to our observations upon this important subject, the original title is adhered to, although the strict adaptation of it throughout the paper may appear doubtful: it is excused, however, on the ground that all the apparent digressions really bear collateral relations to the main subject, though more immediately contemplating the commercial Navy, the condition of which is materially connected with that of the Royal Navy. These grand divisions of maritime employment are connected by ties of reciprocal dependence, for, if the commercial Navy be not in a healthy state as a nursery for seamen, its impotence will be reflected upon the royal Navy in war, and when so involved, if the latter be not powerful, the former will be confined in port, or, venturing unprotected to sea, will sail under very high insurances, a mean and inefficient substitute, burdensome to the people, discreditable to the national character, and eventually destructive of commercial prosperity. We consider the maritime concerns of this country in the comprehensive light of a vast whole, for the more effectual and cheaper protection of which, it has been found expedient to arm and invest a part of the Navy with military functions. We should rejoice if a tolerably extensive intercourse with the other part had enabled us to bear testimony to the existence of a corresponding sentiment among them; but it does not appear that they often consider the alternative offered above, or at least only transiently, when impressment is named, which unanimously they agree to be a horrid practice, not to be endured in this enlightened age. "No, no, an Englishman is a freeman, and besides, our shipping must not be left bare of hands." Sometimes the conversation makes a board upon the opposite tack—the destruction of convoys and foreign prisons may be discussed, "Oh, the Navy, you know, must protect trade; it is what it is paid for doing." Very good, gentlemen, only do not call out when the pinch shall be felt, unless you have assisted to ward it off. The shipping interest naturally looks up to Government for this kind of protection; but if intelligent merchants and shipowners will take the trouble to examine the subject, probably they would be brought to acknowledge that, however convenient in an interested point of view alone, the abolition of impressment would prove, that means of manning the Navy in war, on which sufficient confidence may be reposed, have not yet been, or probably ever will be, developed in voluntary enlistment: and further, that it is not possible to devise any system of training seamen expressly for the Navy, that will render it independent of the commercial marine. Such an investigation might induce them to instruct their parliamentary representatives not to tease Government by urging the abolition of impressment, as some of them have done on more than one occasion of voting Navy estimates, but rather to offer support to measures which shall combine all possible encouragement to volunteers (though really, increase of pay excepted, this would be a puzzle) with a legal right to supply deficiencies by force, properly regulated. With all deference, we cannot in this matter acquit that interest of neglect of duty, both to seamen and to their country. Under

any system, however promotive of voluntary naval service, apprenticeship in the commercial marine is the best nursery of seamen.

If any doubts of the truth of this opinion be entertained, similar ones were not felt by the Statesmen who enacted the maritime laws, even down to one of the most recent additions to such legislation. Despite a glowing attachment to the Navy, we are unable to advocate its virtue for such a purpose. If brought to the stake for an opinion, which in some quarters may be deemed rank heresy, we may not be at hand to vindicate it, and therefore will briefly assign a few reasons for it here. Within our observation, mostly exercised when that service was better adapted than it is at present to be a school, very few good, perhaps no prime seamen were formed in it. In the quick and exact handling and management of sails it is unexcelled, but, in mechanical or rigging-loft seamanship, anchor duty, and the helm and lead, also in manœuvring under sail, so far as working men are concerned, we humbly conceive its pretensions to be less prominent. Commonly, in ships of the line, and in some large frigates, only fore-castle-men are called to the weather-wheel or lead; a constant practice at one, and occasional use of the other, keeps them well up to their work, and insures an *élite* for both purposes. The monopoly, however, in many ships excludes other good seamen from practice for years, nor are young ones taught these duties. In some ships, obediently to a standing order, men are instructed in these and other points, but this course, although useful, seldom imparts the expertness acquired by earliest use. We are fond of adapting "wise saws" to "modern instances," and must again indulge in this *penchant* for terse and expressive phrases, though couched in homely terms, and grating, perhaps, on "ears polite." Merchant-men cannot afford to employ "more cats than can catch mice,"—an economy in which consists their superiority in rearing men of all work—men who, on the same day, may be required to stow the jib, reef the spanker, or hand a top-gallant sail; to take the helm or lead, to repair a sail, to clear away or stow an anchor, to work a kedge in a tide-way, or stow cargo in the hold or in boats.

Apprentice a lad for five years in a merchantman, and place another in a smart frigate (the most favourable mean of naval employment), who, during the same term, shall pass from the mizen to the fore-top, and for part of it shall have belonged to a boat. He may be an active bow or strokesman, may run out upon a topsail-yard, and haul out a weather earing, cross a small sail-yard, or rave studding-gear, much more smartly than the other man, but he will not have gained so comprehensive a knowledge of a seaman's duty, and of course will not be so useful. Should they exchange services, the former would be the least embarrassed: perhaps he might be rather slack until the rust had been shaken from his limbs, but the activity possessed by the other would not redeem palpable deficiencies. Diverse employments frequently repeated by few hands constitute the excellence of the merchant-service as a school. In the Navy an abundance of labour is minutely divided in the application of it: hence everything is more quickly and better done than is possible elsewhere; but the consequent confinement of individuals to stated duties, many of them of mere form, for long periods, has a tendency to deaden their general experience, if it do not cramp their energies, and render them almost machines. Besides much

harder work, more privations are endured in the merchant-service, than in the Navy: take the difference alone in common watch duty, which ordinarily is as two to three, and then the latter have the best of it, for, in the Navy, reefing or other extra night duties, often are performed by a watch, or the addition of the idlers, that in merchantmen require all hands. Witness the liberty of greater nastiness in person, dress, bedding, and cooking; in perfect ventilation and cleanliness in berths; use, however, may reconcile much of this. Who cares whether merchant-seamen take any precautions against the evil consequences of getting wet under a tropical sun, or exposure to a deleterious climate? Careful regulation and guard in these matters is carried almost to excess with Naval seamen, and, exclusive of comfort to the individuals, realises the utmost degree of public benefit from their exertions. The opposite laxity is a consequence of the indifference of the employer to the employed, from the temporary nature of their engagements, and partly a result of the intense competition of the age, from which maritime commerce is not exempt. Still, early habitude to the inconveniences described is not without value to young seamen, whose noviciate cannot be too rough, in order that they may become ready. Formerly a distinction prevailed, which seems to have fallen into disuse. It was to the purport that "all sailors are not seamen," or, as it may be applied here, a smart naval topman may not be fit for a fore-castle-man, but a merchant-seaman is immediately at home in either, or in any station, the sum of the whole matter being, that the Navy forms sailors, and the merchant-service seamen, and the seaman who has served for a couple of years in a judiciously disciplined ship-of-war becomes a character, greatly superior to either of its component parts.

As the origin, progress, and magnitude of our maritime commerce is chiefly attributable to naval preponderance, each having reacted with advantage on the other, it is to be regretted that an identity of interest, which, in a national point of view, really is common to maritime pursuits, is not oftener manifested in unity of purpose among the brethren, to obtain the object under consideration. Too frequently, however, a jealousy of the Navy is observable among merchant officers, this arises from various causes.—1st. From a striking dissimilarity between the Naval proper or professional and the commercial spirit, originating from sources that powerfully affect the imagination in favour of the former. for this there is no cure. 2nd. Some of the adverse fiction, imagining their progress in life to have been retarded by impressment, habitually vilify the Navy: now, as that establishment only obeyed orders, this expression of hostility is both misdirected and unjust. 3rd. From the partial control of the Navy over the mercantile marine for the repression of disorder from one side, or to enforce justice from the other. Although interference rarely occurs, unless expressly called for from the scene of it, yet too frequently it makes an enemy of at least one party in the quarrel. 4th. The superior footing enjoyed by naval officers in society, seems, although most unaccountably, to widen the breach.

Now, many officers are in the Navy upon whom its highest rank confers little, if any, outward consideration, while the best born in the merchant-service do not usually belong to a very high grade even of middle life. Arms may yield homage and place to wisdom, learning, or eloquence, which have refined or elevated mankind, but not to men

who for lucre minister only to the baser and corporeal gratifications,—not to pretensions often founded only on the vulgar grossness of mere wealth, unchastened by the knowledge or amenities which alone entitle it to true respect. Far be it from us to undervalue commerce, which, in a general sense, is one of the handmaids of civilisation, and is a great source of England's power: still active patriotism, in defence of country, has ever held a higher place, and for this plain reason,—one is almost innate—is capable of being highly cultivated, and shines most brightly when all besides is lost; the other is of artificial origin, of transient duration, and capricious in the choice of an abode, and, being a citizen of the world, seldom shows a bold front to an enemy. Notwithstanding a commonly-avowed indifference to empty honours, an imitation of them often is attempted, as well as exhibitions of haughty demeanour: both of these baseless assumptions frequently may be observed in superior employments of the mercantile marine towards inferior ones. The two last points of difference, besides being founded in public utility, and established by law, partly result from the higher standard in education and tone in manner required in the Navy: moreover, they are sanctioned by opinion, a powerful dictator, from whose decrees there is no appeal, however they may be questioned when subjected to partial investigation. 5th. A rivalry of personal interest, arising from the employment of a few naval officers in the merchant-service, who, of course, have displaced or impeded the advancement of some mercantile officers, although it may be presumed of the least valuable. In the early years of the peace the spirit of opposition was strongly manifested, and it was seriously contemplated to petition Government to forbid the intrusion; but upon national, if not on other grounds, the absurdity of the attempt became so obvious that it was dropped. It originated chiefly among inferior masters; the advancement of many of whom resulted rather from a concurrence of fortunate circumstances than from individual fitness. It often is urged, that, as naval officers enjoy a provision from the public, they ought to confine their exertions to public duties. The retainer, as many of our readers feelingly are aware, is very slender; besides, in whatever occupation, however lucrative or otherwise beneficial it may be in which a holder of it engages, he incurs entire forfeiture of the provision, if he fail to render his services whenever they may be required—an obligation, the general reasonableness of which is plain.

Thus restricted, and perhaps with a family to provide for, of which the State takes little cognisance, and, as peace shall be prolonged, certainly will not take more, he may be considered to be fairly entitled to make the best of opportunities for honest exertions. As the objection is grounded solely on a jealousy of competitors, if it have a just value, it is as strictly applicable to any owner, commander, or tradesman connected with the shipping interest, immediately they may have obtained as ample a provision as their early prospects warranted: we will not say a sufficient provision, recollecting a Scot's definition of enough—"a feeble mair than ane has got." Consistently with their own principle, adventurers who have realised a decent competence are bound to retire from the stage of commerce, and make room for younger and more needy aspirants. In the struggle, naval officers have scarcely had "a fair field," and certainly have not enjoyed much favour: not-

withstanding, they have obtained, in a very satisfactory degree, the approbation of their employers, and have seen absurd prejudices, together with much calumny, and the most sordid motives directed against them, evaporate before the light of truth.

It has been stated that impressment, unexpectedly to some, opened a road to fortune in the Navy. The extraordinary large armaments, and duration of the war, also improved and multiplied the ordinary chances of advancement in the merchant-service to those who evaded impressment. The rigour of the impress led many respectable parents, who but from this cause might have sent their sons into the merchant-service, at once to place them upon a naval quarter-deck, to take their chance of its advantages, and, where a choice permitted, most lads gladly made that election. Thus the private service having, as it were, been abandoned by many of those to whom it might have been a heritage, in the same degree became a prey to an inferior class, some in which did not owe promotion exactly to the merit that in ordinary cases might have been required. In the latter part of the war (so enormously had tonnage increased) many such, who soon turned out drunken and disreputable, were almost of necessity intrusted with commands, their fitness being limited to the possession of the essential qualification of seamanship: some of these were miserably ignorant of navigation, a deficiency then less apparent than it would be at present, because the commercial marine sailed mostly under convoy, and it did not require much ability to keep company in a fleet. The apparently interminable nature of the contest, and the constant demand for seamen, operated in every successive year to deter proper persons from rescuing the merchant-service from deeper degradation, so that at its close the calling had sunk low in estimation. Some letters of marque, and superior merchantmen, were commanded by a remnant of the original race of merchant officers, intelligent and respectable men; but a regular succession of such an order had been seriously interrupted, and, consequently, when convoy ceased, an unusual number of inefficiently-conducted ships were wrecked. Commanders, however, are better educated than formerly: whoever visits Lloyd's, or the principal sea-ports, cannot but have observed an improvement in the language, intelligence, and address of the present race—an improvement that it is likely will be accelerated by the continuance of the circumstances in which it originated. These are the long duration of peace, and the dissolution of the East India Company's maritime service, which have sealed two outlets for young blood against nine-tenths of the Robinson Crusoes from the middle ranks, who in opposite circumstances would have wooed Fortune in them. Of such, the most ardent and determined upon a sea life of necessity have entered the merchant-service, and among them are sons of naval officers, of other professional men, and of respectable merchants: indeed, lads of this description are so very numerous therein as to excite speculation how all those who may prove deserving can be provided with commands, the only situation in that employment to which any consideration is attached on shore. Some of this class, not impelled by energy of character, or by straitened circumstances, to persevere after this questionable elevation, and seeing no mean between it and the drudgery of a seaman's or mate's berth, daily leave the severe ordeal, and repair to comfortable homes, where soon they become burdensome,

and are found to have been their own masters just long enough to be materially damaged for any other useful pursuit: and this, too, in a country which abounds more and more with those who cannot dig, and to beg are ashamed. Some of this description, who possessed good though misapplied talents that were worthy of a more congenial field for their exercise, have found honourable graves under Pedroite or Christino banners. Those who continue at sea carried into that coarse school the manners, education, and sentiments of their respective conditions, and, although such artificial distinctions do not stand much chance of being directly appreciated there, still they may by possibility eventually produce a beneficial influence in diffusing more respect for outward propriety, especially when such lads shall arrive at command, for which, from wealth and connexion, a few are early destined. It is said "the sea and the gallows receive any;" a conjunction neither flattering to our noble profession or latterly accordant with fact. The part enacted by the gallows in disposing of surplus population is too repulsive to invite further comment; but for several years prior to the enactment of the Registry Law the sea had been far more fastidious than the proverb intimates; and it may surprise some readers to learn that then it was more difficult to fix a boy in a respectable ship, especially if it were desired to apprentice him, than during the war it was to place one upon a naval quarter-deck. Greenwich School, under management inferior to that now in force, supplied the nautical profession with some good officers, but the difficulty noticed was fully shared by that seminary.

The East India trade is still the most liberally conducted: some of the crack ships carry youths yelected Midshipmen; these chiefly are sons of opulent parents; they pay the owner from 60*l.* to 80*l.* for permission to embark; mess together at their own expense, which often is considerable; and in some ships assume a uniform. Mostly they become skilful navigators, and perhaps acquire some mercantile knowledge, but it is remarked that few turn out good seamen. It may too often occur that, while abroad, letters of introduction, and a free command of cash, tempt to too long sojourns on shore, and when they return home careful parents immediately take them into their own keeping: they thus miss opportunities of acquiring some useful, if not essential, knowledge. Instead of such long intervals of relaxation, at the most dangerous age, lads of this class ought, after a short spell, to be started upon a North American or Baltic voyage immediately, under careful masters of the right sort, with whom they should mess. Besides imparting to them a knowledge of small vessels, such voyages would enlarge their ideas of maritime commerce; for, from sailing only in one branch of it, commonly, it is noticed that these youths grow up, not only profoundly ignorant of, but hold in contempt, most others. The India voyage thus taken, is preferred by tender parents for luxuriously-bred sons who perversely determine on going to sea, as affording a better chance of culinary comforts: be this as it may, this trade certainly is not the best school for young merchant-seamen, however they may be connected. In selecting it some parents are influenced by more praiseworthy motives—namely, the hope of averting the contamination of a merchantman fore-castle, the danger from which is greater in that trade, from the rif-raff with which it is manned, and, indeed, generally,

is more to be apprehended than it was under the system of apprenticeship, or rather of the small remnant of its practice superseded by the Registry Act.

The previous observations refer to officers, and to youngsters who go to sea under an expectation of becoming such: those which will immediately follow relate to the actual condition of merchant-seamen. The ill-will that is too current among them towards the Navy is much more excusable than that recently noticed: it originated in a tangible cause, and has been aggravated by its frequent repetition—namely, compulsory service under smaller rewards and a less perfect system of discipline than now prevail. Had those objections been earlier modified, it was not to be expected that seamen, even if they had concurred in the necessity for coerced service, would have extended approval to a system of procuring it, which was very partial in its operation and inflexible in its hold. This dislike, which, however the existence of it may be regretted, must be admitted to have had a reasonable foundation, has been cherished through successive generations, which in turn have suffered from the practice which gave it birth, until it has become almost an heir-loom; and there is reason to believe that too frequently their immediate superiors have fanned and inflamed it in furtherance of ephemeral interests—apparently not foreseeing that the final term for the production of such will coincide with the loss of naval supremacy. But however founded, or by whomsoever fostered, it is certain that such jealousy and aversion still exist to an extent that is baneful to the object of this inquiry.

We formerly observed that sea-apprenticeship would do nothing towards directly manning the Navy—it would more correctly have been said towards procuring voluntary enlistment; for, by whatever means obtained, the services of the thorough-bred seamen raised by apprenticeship will be more valuable than those of the less expert ones commonly produced without it. When the Registry Act came into force there were only 5400 apprentices, but it has already made 20,000. That system, neglected as these facts prove it to have previously been, reared the most respectable of the old shipmasters, and also some able naval officers. It was most neglected in London—a port that for some years paid, and still is paying, a penalty for such short-sighted and mercenary policy, for very few middle-aged seamen are left there who were brought up under that wholesome and useful tuition. In the northern ports it was better observed, and they have their reward in possessing a larger proportion of thorough-bred seamen, prejudiced and obstinate race as unquestionably they are. The half-bred ground their claim to the honourable calling of seamen upon wearing the garb, and on having made a few voyages, during which it is too probable that many of them were concerned in, if they did not originate, insubordinate or even mutinous proceedings—conduct seldom heard of in the north country ships.

In the modern school of political economy apprenticeship has been decried; but it would appear that the Americans, our most active rivals in maritime commerce, do not esteem so lightly that course of regular instruction during pupilage, and which so tardily has been re-established here. The advantage derivable from adopting the practice more generally throughout the maritime States at this time is being

strongly urged. Lately a public meeting was held in Boston to devise means to improve the morals and condition of seamen, and the resolution chiefly insisted upon recommended "a system of apprenticeship similar to that which prevails in Great Britain."

As bearing some relation to this subject, and confirmatory of a suspicion expressed in our last paper of the scarcity of native American seamen, it is now in our power to state upon competent authority the singular fact that nine-tenths of the seamen who sail from New York are foreigners! An opinion may safely be hazarded that of that proportion one-half are Englishmen.

An art or trade can as well be learned out of a state of apprenticeship as in it; but experience confirms that, in the case of youth, the instruction that is constant and methodically imparted, as it commonly is in such a probation, will be more likely to instil the desired knowledge. The mode of acquisition, however, is purely an affair of interest between the contracting parties, and is not the sole advantage contemplated in the policy which devised the contracts: society next requires its dues—namely, that an apprentice be reared in habits of obedience, industry, sobriety, and order: it is chiefly to procure these moral qualities that masters' hands are strengthened so that their commands, which usually are deemed less obligatory than those of natural guardians, may, if need be, receive the sanction and support of law. And if such sanctions be required on shore, where aid of so many other kinds lies at hand, or where the parties may separate, how much more is it necessary to be provided in sea-servitude, which is totally deficient in them! It must be plain that, in a pursuit offering unusual inducements to err, a youth will stand a better chance of keeping in the right path when under such reasonable restraint than one who, free from such ties, may avail himself of opportunities to change his ship at every port, and at much less injury to his future interests.

The principle of apprenticeship is strictly adhered to in the preparation of officers in the Royal Navy, where, irrespectively of birth or of wealth, all who aspire to hold first commissions must have served six years in subordinate capacities, besides briefer terms to qualify for subsequent promotion. In Denmark (and it is believed in adjacent countries) it is required that candidates even for mercantile commands shall have served certain terms as mates in different grades and voyages; and the same rule ought to be obligatory here. It is not sufficient that commonly it is done, because lately it was proved, in evidence before a parliamentary committee, that at that time some commands were held by persons who not simply had acquired a very slender knowledge of sea affairs, but some of whom had not attained manhood. In after-life one of the good effects that followed from apprenticeship was, that good masters almost unconsciously became invested with a kind of paternal influence over their crews, a natural result of the long-continued habits of deference it engendered. From this cause in particular, it was far more usual than at present for seamen to sail many voyages in the same ship: now, indeed, to repeat one is the exception, not the rule: hence the pride and feeling in a favourite ship, so often evinced among naval seamen, is rarely noticed at present in the merchant-service. Formerly a ship, while in port (we particularly allude to London), or at least until the cargo had been discharged, might be a seaman's home: now

immediately she is received in dock, and sometimes before, he is compelled to seek one where occasionally he had been wont to seek only a relaxation from his toils in the shape of a *spree*—namely, among the vilest haunts of metropolitan outcasts. He may be considered to be tolerably safe while on board and employed; but, land him near a grog-shop, or a leering eye under a bonnet, or the sound of a fiddle, and the chances are much against seeing him until his *lark* is ended by empty pockets. From not having ships to return to without immediately proceeding to sea, many seamen fall into mischief. Our meaning is elegantly amplified in the following extract:—

“I hardly knew at the time, and on reflection I hardly know, what were the nature of those feelings which made me rather averse than otherwise to the prospect of quitting the poor Pique: it could not be that sort of affection which we often feel towards an inanimate object, and which I can readily conceive sailors feel for the ship to which they belong,—feelings so useful, I imagine, that they should be respected and encouraged by not removing men, who have so much hardship to support, from the local habitation which these interesting sympathies of our nature makes a home—their home indeed it is, for there they live and act, and suffer or enjoy. These are the associations that form home everywhere.”—*Lady Aylmer's Narrative*.

Such a home, it is repeated, is afforded in large ships (in which a greater proportion of dissolute seamen sail than in small ones) in a less degree than it was prior to the introduction of docks. These, it is admitted, have afforded unprecedented protection to property and facilities to commerce; but they also have contributed to dissolve the connexion between him and his ship more completely than is done by the mere payment of wages after a voyage. We feel disposed to believe that, if the moral character of seamen has not been deteriorated from this cause, the almost parallel decay of apprenticeship, and the disproportionate increase of foreign commerce, that at least those causes have neutralised other new and favourable influences, which have been some time in action unproductive of good.

After striking a fair balance between them, it is not intended as a reproach upon seamen to pronounce that they have never been even tolerably exemplary. Let us view them in a quaint portraiture, as they roved in Wapping—“Some pleasure for to find,”—an hundred and forty years ago.

“Sometimes we met in the streets a boate's-crew just come on shore in search of those land debaucheries which the sea denies them: looking like such wild, strange, gamesome, uncouth animals, that a litter of squab rhinoceroses, dressed up in human apparel, could not have made a more ungainly appearance. So mercurial in their actions, and rude in their behaviour, that a woman could not pass them but they fell to sucking her lips like so many horse-leeches: every post they came near was in danger of having its head broke, for every one as he passed would give the senseless block a bang with his oaken cudgel, as if they wished every post they met with to be either the purser or the boatswain. The very dogs in the street shunned them with as much fear and aversion as a loitering vagrant would a gang of press-masters, being so cautioned against their ill-usage by the stripes they have formerly received, that, as soon as ever he sees a scaman, away runs the poor cur

with his tail between his legs to avoid the danger. I could not forbear reflecting on the prudence of such parents who send their unlucky children to sea to tame and reform 'em, which is like sending a knave into Scotland to learn honesty, a fool into Ireland to learn wit, or a clown into Holland to learn breeding; by any of which measures they that send 'em may be sure that the first will return more wild, the second more knavish, the third more foolish, and the fourth a greater clown. We now straggled into a public-house to refresh ourselves with a sneaker of punch, where presently bolted in two seamen with a little crooked fiddler before them, short pipes in their mouths, oaken truncheons in their hands, thrum-caps upon their heads, and canvas trousers, whose unpolished behaviour, apish gestures, and maritime nonsense added no small pleasure to the night.

"The tarpaulins began to talk to each other of the remarkable accidents which had happened in their voyages. One swore they had found it so hot going to Guinea that they used no fire to boil the kettle, but dressed all their beef in the sunshine, and could bake, boil, or stew as well as in an Ameral's cook-room. Says his companion, 'That's very strange, but I have known stranger things to be true. I once was sitting on my chest, between decks, mending an old canvas jacket, and on a sudden it began to lower, and the larboard watch handed in sails for fear of a tornado. At last a beam of lightning darted through an open port, melted one of the guns, and went through a pair of buckskin breeches I had on, and burnt the lappets of a blue shirt to tinder, and hissed as it came out like a rattlesnake, but did my body no manner of damage.' Presently in steps another of the tarpaulin fraternity, with his hat under his arm half-full of money, which he hugged under his arm as close as a school-boy does a bird's-nest. 'Ounds, mother,' says our marine Croesus to the landlady, 'where are you?' She, hearing his tongue, thought, by his lively expressing himself, he had brought good news, and came running with all speed to meet him, crying—'Here I am, son Bartholomew, you're welcome ashore: I hope your captain and ship's crew are all well?' 'By fire and gunpowder! I don't care if they be all sick; why, we are paid off in the Downs, and I am just come up in a hoy. Come, mother, let's have a bucket-full of punch, that we may swim and toss in an ocean of good liquor, like a couple of little junks in the Bay of Biscay.'

"I could not but reflect on the unhappy lives of those salt-water kind of vagabonds, who are never at home but when they're at sea, and always are wandering when they're at home. They're never at ease till they've received their pay, and then never satisfied till they've spent it: and when their pockets are empty they're just as much respected by their landladies (who cheat them of one-half, if they spend the other) as a father is by his son-in-law, who has beggared himself to give him a good portion with his daughter."—*The London Spy*, 1699.

The writer, evidently a landman, is not very graphic in recording the phraseology of the odd company into which he had wandered. The present race of seamen are about the fifth transmitters of the same character, without its having undergone any material modification, except that it is less churlish than as just described, and certainly is not cruel, either to man or dog. Docks now cover most part of their old cruising-ground, but a ramble through their new paradise, the neighbour-

hoods of Ratcliff Highway and the Commercial Road, in any day of the week, will disclose similar antics, both with posts and with Polls. We regret to have to acknowledge, not only a hopelessness of ever seeing seamen who are employed in foreign, and especially in the southern trades, so respectable as men in similar station on shore, or, which is a closer parallel, as their brethren in coasting-trades; but also to avow a strong persuasion, that it results from the very nature of their employment,—its inevitable temptations, and occasionally ample command of cash, that they will ever afford a large quota, in proportion to their numbers, to the enormous mass of vice generated by, and inseparable from, a high state of civilisation, based upon, and chiefly maintained by, commerce.

This observation does not so strictly apply to those employed in coasters, particularly of the smaller ports: such men commonly are as respectable in every relation of life as any others of similar station; a difference in conduct which arises simply from that of the circumstances in which severally they are placed. Coasting seamen's wages do not accumulate to such large sums, nor are their intermissions of labour so long as those enjoyed, or rather abused, by their fellows; and a very superficial investigation of the subject would show that the riotous, drunken, and debauched excesses indulged in by them bear a very exact proportion to those elements.

The errors of seamen, therefore, are mainly referrible to their peculiar employments, for no other men, even soldiers, are placed in such a discouraging position for the avoidance of them: but the extravagant excess to which they are carried is partly attributable to the gross neglect of their proper superiors, who, like all blinded worshippers of Mammon, appear reckless of consequences, although these fall daily upon their own heads in the shape of insubordination, desertion, and the attendant waste of property—disorders that often flow from, and always are aggravated by, laxity of principle. It is more incumbent upon their immediate employers than on any other persons to take the lead in such endeavours at a reformation, from which, in whatever degree realised, they would reap the second degree of benefit. But what has been their conduct towards the attainment of such an end? Why, that seamen owe less to them than is owed by any other labouring class to its proper superiors.*

The advantages of docks having accrued entirely on the side of property, it might have been expected that something would be offered from that side, to compensate the injured party, in the shape of asylums for sickness or old age. Not only has such considerate benevolence been unobserved, but, with a few honourable exceptions, ship-owners regard with cold indifference or undisguised scorn various philanthropic institutions formed of late to protect seamen from fraud and their own irregularities, by affording them comfortably-conducted lodging-houses while unemployed.

Such well-intentioned, and to a considerable extent feasible, endeavours to improve the habits, and, as would then follow, the character, of

* Hear one of themselves:—"It is lamentable to observe the indifference of the mercantile men of this country to the state of their seamen, of whom generally they know no more than what they learn from the wages-book."—Captain Harber, H.C.S., annual meeting Sailors' Asylum, 1837.

the active producers of shipping wealth, receive but little countenance from those into whose coffers it flows. Even the Floating Hospital has not derived much support from them, the munificent Lydekker and a few others excepted. The Corporation for Sick and Maimed Seamen is chiefly supported by a duty of five per cent. upon the wages of merchant-seamen themselves, and this opportunity is embraced to observe that in a former notice the income was understated—perhaps 50,000*l.* per annum is a more correct approximation : this should be considered with respect to its actual influence on the subject of this paper.

The regular and stable revival of apprenticeships is a favourable feature in the times, as regards the moral improvement of seamen ; and, if the opportunity be properly seconded by ship-owners and others, who more immediately are interested in their behaviour, this encouraging feature would operate still more favourably upon the rising generation ; and, as a greater number of youths of respectable parentage than formerly enter the merchant-service, the strongest conceivable motives seem to impel their friends to take part in the undertaking. We entertain no hope, and almost had said no desire, to see some of the means successful which have been tried to qualify Jack for canonisation, from entertaining strong doubts of their applicability to his peculiar and unique character : this may appear to be still more deprecatory of men in whose welfare we feel a deep interest, but, after long acquaintance with them, we feel equally assured they are capable of being delivered from much that is degrading to their fine traits—for this rough ore, though containing much dross, also is rich in courage, gentleness, and generosity.

A direct appeal to them through religion seems to have failed, and it may be worth an experiment whether they may not be helped into that road through taking more care of their temporal affairs, by the establishment of savings-banks, and of benefit societies. In the northern ports seamen's benefit societies, on a more extensive scale than in the metropolis, have long existed with signal advantage to their supporters. Such projects, in which the advantage is at hand and tangible, seem calculated to check heedless spendthrift habits, the chief thing to be accomplished, when much that is condemnable would gradually disappear. Strange indeed would it have been, if during the extensive diffusion of intelligence which has distinguished the last twenty years, some rays of light had not pierced our dark confines : this is sufficiently manifest among all descriptions of sea-officers, and is believed to have produced a corresponding moral development, especially noticeable in the repression of drunkenness, that bane and curse of its victims, and of profane swearing. Some of that light is well known to shine among seamen : many of them have partaken of the plain useful education now within reach of most of the humblest of their countrymen ; but even the reforms in outward demeanour particularised have not become apparent.

A prominent evil attributable to the dock and non-apprenticeship system is the diminution of the moral restraint of masters over seamen, which has estranged these classes from each other—an unnatural separation which, with other causes, has led to the decay of the ancient and proverbial simplicity of the character of the latter, that extraordinary compound of almost sublime heroism and of inconceivable folly. The feature now too common is a disposition to disorder and litigation, which

is so rife as to have rendered the office of command more difficult in the English than in any other mercantile marine. On the other hand it is quite certain, that in many vessels reasonable attention is not paid either to victualling, to safety from sea-risk, or to the commodiousness of seamen's berths; in such instances, these points appear to be considered quite secondary to the possible gain of a trifle in freight. Truth demands the admission, that the most orderly, docile, and sober seamen in the merchant-service are foreigners, and particularly Swedes, Danes, and Norwegians. We still are proud, however, to be as justly able to claim the palm in active daring, ready and skilful seamanship, and, when judiciously disciplined (as particularly evinced in the Royal Navy), of unrivalled order, which remain pre-eminently with our countrymen. The moral character of those who use the sea has always been unfavourably, and it may as truly be said, unfairly estimated, relatively to that of mankind in general. But communities cannot be ignorant that those who actually conduct foreign commerce upon the ocean, of necessity must be removed for long periods from the staid and orderly course of land-life, and particularly from respectable female influence, which does more towards keeping men correct than perhaps all other besides. Moreover, they must be exposed to temptations of which many of the pharasaical censors of their conduct cannot imagine the strength; and such never are so dangerous as when they follow closely upon the heels of privations, of the severity of which these judges form as imperfect a conception. Besides, unless the community, which has stimulated and derives benefit from their exertions thus directed, have taken measures to counteract the notoriously universal aberrations to which that direction of them leads, it has no right to visit those who practise them with severe opinions. Unless, therefore, in this enlightened age it be intended to take shelter under a plea that seamen are unaccountable beings, whose only "home is on the deep," and consequently who are without the pale of human charity—the common sympathies and ties which knit others of their kind to society, its duties, and its hopes—unless such is to be an excuse for the future neglect of them, the foregoing considerations ought to have weight.

We cannot quit this notice of seamen without expressing regret that that excellent nursery, the home fisheries, does not receive more encouragement. The practice of fostering any particular branch of commerce by protecting bounties is exploded, otherwise home fisheries offer powerful claims to such favour. For, until it shall have been found practicable to dispense with compulsory naval service, such an exception would increase a description of seamen who, from being brought up and constantly employed upon their own coast, are less likely than others who sail in foreign trades to seek foreign service on a rupture. If due encouragement to the home fishery be enjoyed, what reason can be assigned for the fact that such active and doubtless profitable use is made of it at our very doors by the French and Dutch? Often thirty sail of foreign boats are employed inside the Goodwins alone, and we have seen nets cast from some of them within an hundred yards of a beach whereon seafaring men were standing unemployed, who almost constantly were in receipt of parochial assistance—and of our boats in sight not one was following that occupation. Such employment prepares those foreigners as pilots and crews of their respective navies and privateers in war,

the latter of which, as usual, will infest the narrow seas, though, thanks to steam, with less injury to commerce than formerly. Perhaps, above all other sea-faring men, fishermen are hardy and enduring of the fatigues incident to struggling with that element. When transferred to square-rigged vessels they quickly acquire a knowledge of them; and, as helmsmen, none are so patient and watchful as smack-bred fishermen. In France, of late years, no other branch of maritime commerce has been so sedulously cultivated as fisheries, both at home and abroad: the latter even at great national cost in bounties;—the foreseen reward of the sacrifice is the services of the men in the fleet. Under proper care, in our own country, both the number of seamen reared and of produce may be quadrupled.

In connexion with the next subject of remark, it is proper to state, that formerly we proposed the application to the Navy of the principle of commutation for the voluntary resignation of commissions, and also an extension of retired lists.* Should any such useful arrangements be under consideration, it seems desirable that officers in command of merchantmen be not included, as they may yet prove a valuable resource to their own service. Active maritime employment is the best preservative of high efficiency in duties of detail, and, generally speaking, efficiency is impaired according to the duration of a residence on shore, and especially when the individual happens to have engaged in a civil profession or trade, or to have resided far from busy scenes of nautical life.

There is reason to believe that, in an early period of the regular formation of the Royal Navy, unemployed officers were required to reside at or within a short distance from naval arsenals. Intelligence then was slowly circulated, and such a regulation may have been framed to obtain a prompt assemblage, but it is equally probable that the other object also was in view. This will effectually be promoted by their serving in merchantmen, and it is recommended that express encouragement be given to them by the Admiralty; for, although that Board seldom withholds permission when it is applied for, yet, as it is not generally understood that such employment is regarded with cordial approbation, a vague apprehension that it may prejudice them there may deter officers from embracing opportunities; nay, it is well known that such an opinion is current, and has produced the stated effect. This uncertainty does not answer any useful purpose, but may prove inconvenient to individuals; and, as no serious objection can be imagined to such a course, it might be wise to dispel doubt by a frank official declaration containing the necessary restrictions. If, from the impatience of inactivity which peculiarly characterises the sons of Neptune, or from any other motives, naval officers prefer to employ their talents actively, it seems advantageous to the public that the field selected should be that most analogous to their proper sphere of action. As to the description of officers whom it may be proper to encourage, some difference of opinion may prevail: we have heard it alleged, as a hardship on Captains, that they are not permitted so to employ themselves, if there be an actual restriction, which is doubtful. Considering the dignity, important functions, and chivalrous associations connected with that grade, we do not feel disposed to

* Condition of the grade of Lieutenant, R.N., compared with its numbers.—Journal, July, 1837.

recommend their being permitted to accept any private employment for a pecuniary recompense; nor is it probable that many would do so if permitted: those who attained the rank early would be deterred by a lofty ambition and the corresponding sentiments; and others, besides participating more or less in these, are far too independent to submit with docility to any than official control. This remark may be extended partially much lower in the Service; still, as prudential motives induce some officers, particularly Lieutenants, to seek this occupation, they ought to receive positive encouragement, and also passed Midshipmen, without prejudicing their return at pleasure to the Navy. Professionally none are better qualified, but the number from any grade never would be considerable, as generally their habits and feelings are not in unison with the employment: many would be averse from encountering the chicanery which is too common in trafficking, and the intrigue, inferior *morale*, and loose discipline that pervade the merchant-service, and which collectively present more embarrassment to those bred in a straight-forward school, than any other features in the transfer. Perhaps the East India trade, as conducted in large ships, may be excepted from this stricture.

We have before stated, and in language which, unless it be illiberally construed both as to intention and in spirit, ought not to give offence, that a jealousy subsists between the Services. From the permanence of the grounds from which it arises, it is to be apprehended that the feeling itself will be as enduring; yet it is noticeable, that as between officers the expression of it has been somewhat softened, which has arisen from the more frequent intercourse facilitated by a state of peace. Apparently this ill feeling is of little moment to the public, still it is upon public grounds, in which mercantile officers have a deep although it is hoped a remote interest, that in what they regard as exclusively their own field of action, entire liberty is claimed for our naval brethren, undisturbed by the petty annoyances which reflection ought to teach the better class of those who practise them are unhandsome, and which have been demonstrated to be indefensible. But it is of high importance, that between naval officers and merchant-seamen the best attainable understanding should prevail—here it is desirable that the mist of prejudice still further should be dispelled.

It is chiefly in this view that we have advocated the employment of naval officers in the merchant-service, conceiving that course to afford a slight mean towards accomplishing the patriotic and benevolent, we almost had said holy, end of diminishing the necessity for compulsory naval service. It is pretty generally admitted, that the seamen on the peace establishment substantially are the same individuals who have composed it for many years: hence naval officers are less known to merchant-seamen than would be the case were the *personnelle* of that establishment more frequently renewed. It may safely be predicted that, as they became better known to young seamen, those at least would be disabused of the *raw-head-and-bloody-bones* bugbears, which the selfish and mistaken policy of interested parties have too successfully conjured up, strengthened, it must be confessed, by some true, but also by many exaggerated narrations of capricious severities, which it is not probable ever will be repeated, or certainly not with impunity to the perpetrators. As if, forsooth, judicial proceedings did not almost daily publish the commission of horrible atrocities, and a list of minor violations of humanity in merchantmen. It is imagined that the proposed course, by bringing

the Services into closer juxtaposition, would foster attachments, which upon the return of the naval officer to his proper field in war, might produce seasonable effects in collecting a portion of the indispensable materials on which its issue would chiefly depend; an endeavour which, at least, will be attended with unprecedented embarrassment.

Another point connected with the merchant-service deserves attention. On ruptures of former intervals of peace there almost always were Midshipmen who had been thrown out of employment at the termination of hostilities, who, on their recommencement, resumed naval service. But, as in the case of the seamen of the late war, the unusual length of the peace now enjoyed has long since disposed of surplus Midshipmen too, and it is hoped more to their satisfaction than seems to have been contemplated in the whim of a facetious member of that illustrious order, and which, just before they were turned adrift, afforded entertainment in a squadron wherein we served. The wag delineated a figure of a hard-up Middy, employed in polishing shoes upon Tower Hill, and uttering the following half-plaintive half-solacing sentiment—

“ When in war a reefer fine—
Now it's peace, yet still I shine.”

In the event of war, whether early or remote, quarter-deck officers of inferior grade, numerically would be found to be inadequate to the increased duties; for, in order to supply the dearth of Lieutenants able to serve, which may be anticipated, it would be found necessary to promote most of the Mates, and the remainder of them and the Midshipmen would be insufficient for the demand, and the herd of school-boys who would then rush into the Service would be of little use when practical knowledge would be indispensable. An urgency would thus arise for young men of certain nautical experience, fair education, and respectability.

In early periods of the regular Navy many of its officers had been bred in merchantmen, and in all wars that Service furnished some good ones. In the scarcity foreseen, therefore, it is imagined that it will be easy to procure the voluntary assistance of any number of smart intelligent young seamen of ambitious temperament, whom imperious circumstances previously noticed, rather than actual preference, led to adopt the merchant-service, as being almost the only opening afforded to the great majority of those who now choose a nautical career. Many such would gladly enter upon a higher sphere of action, and, besides being quite competent to take occasional charge of a watch or of prizes, would be qualified by civil station to participate in the privileges of the quarter-deck, and the contingent elevation to which desert or good fortune might lead. It is not seen clearly how the Service can be conducted, suddenly and upon a large scale, independently of aid of this description; and we have recently seen with satisfaction a way to the grade of Master in the Navy re-opened to such persons. In order to ascertain the prevalent feeling on the subject of this article among the parties most nearly interested, we have embraced opportunities of conversing on it with ship-owners, merchants, and seamen; and, in order to encourage a frank avowal of their sentiments, quietly suggest that a necessity will exist for coercion. Seamen cannot be expected explicitly to concur in the propriety of a stretch of power to which themselves are destined to become the earliest victims; but they affirm that position by avowing a determination not to tender service. Here we are not disappointed.

Most of the other parties appear never to have reflected seriously about it, beyond drawing the self-satisfactory conclusions formerly mentioned.

Now, of private interests, the commercial marine, and the merchants who employ it, have the heaviest stake in the fleet being promptly and effectively manned in war, for an apprehension alone of that state occasions an immediate advance in premiums of sea-insurances; but if defensive means be not early provided, the rise will be enormous. Then loud will be the clamour of those who do not participate in the profits of insurance, that designed medium of safe-trading, which it is apprehended has been so widely diverted from its original uses as to render it certain that increased risks bring disproportionately-increased profits to those who actually are engaged in that business. These exorbitant guarantees open a fruitful field to speculators, some of whom will realise excessive profits, which really accrue from an indirect taxation upon imported commodities. They almost unobservedly operate as a drain on healthful commerce, if they do not tend to divert it from its favourite haunts. Conviction, however, seems rapidly to be spreading, that every shilling of fraudulent premium eventually is paid by the public, a truth that possibly may lead to a correction of an abused good. Herein is one reason of the short-sightedness of the mercantile interest to anything beyond the earliest checks to trade that war will occasion, and also of the apathy of ship-owners to combinations which of late years have been formed among north-country seamen to emigrate upon a rupture.

There has fallen opportunely before us an official report of the present state of the French Navy, from which it appears that its force in commission is twenty-two sail of the line and thirty-six frigates, which could immediately be augmented to forty sail of the line and fifty frigates, and then there would remain 15,000 men disposable. Their seamen generally are, doubtless, inferior to ours, if not in crossing royal yards, at least in shifting a topsail, in a gale of wind; but the provision for immediately manning other ships, if required, and also the surplus, bespeak an organisation, both of seamen and of inferior descriptions of men, which is worthy of being emulated here; an arrangement, in short, which is capable of being turned to early account against us.

In war an equivalent demonstration would not suffice for England, whose extensive colonial possessions and maritime commerce would render it absolutely necessary to send numerous squadrons abroad on the instant, as well as to keep powerful fleets near home. We are under no misgivings of the ultimate issue of a naval struggle with France, but neither are we disposed to undervalue the intermediate preparations and efforts of a brave and active enemy, who, under circumstances of great discouragement, has reinstated a prostrate navy, which now is ready to try the fortune of war with one which in *elementary* strength is the most powerful in the world. Moreover, if the naval campaigns of 1779 and 1781 had not been recorded as beacons, we could not look but with distrust upon the so-called provision here for exerting that strength to prevent the recurrence of similar humiliations, nor without apprehension on the disastrous consequences that must attend a tardy appearance in the field.

Throughout this article an endeavour has been made to render apparent the only material weakness in England's defensive position, leaving

to abler hands the grateful though difficult task of proposing a plan for manning the fleet in war, which shall be of general application, and shall require the least possible degree of compulsion consistent with the prompt and effective attainment of that end. Besides this, attention has been solicited to a few suggestions, which, however trivial may appear their separate value, if carried out may collectively aid in its accomplishment. We would not be viewed as alarmists, but safely it may be asserted that at some time this important subject must absorb the deepest and most exclusive attention, yet it seems to sleep even where the duty of providing against the need is imperative. At such an anxious period the nation will be undergoing a transition from an almost unprecedentedly long enjoyment of peace to "war's alarms," with its destinies guided by men animated by the spirit and glorious recollections of the deeds of their forefathers, but unused to war. Such ought not to be a season of preparation in this vital matter, but rather one in which to repose on the utility of those which should have been planned under the then unattainable advantages of leisure, deliberation, and such trial as time and circumstances may have afforded. This brings us briefly to recapitulate the grounds of the opinion we espouse. The Register and Enlistment Acts became laws under these advantages and trial; yet it is notorious that they barely suffice, and occasionally with much inconvenient delay, to man a "small fleet in peace, an impotence that suggests the obvious question, whether they ought to be relied upon to man a large one in war, when the working of them will be impeded, and they will have to struggle against powerful influences now dormant? If, as between the Navy and the merchant-service, there be in the former mild discipline, less work and privation, more liberty on shore when belonging to a ship, sufficient and better food, as large recompenses in money or in money's worth, and for the majority more surely to be reaped prospective rewards, and still this superiority does not attract the best seamen, or all times a sufficient number of inferior ones, will it be contended that, when in all probability a reversal of most of this shall have occurred, when assuredly there will be more rigorous discipline, perhaps inferior food, certainly smaller wages and less liberty on shore than in merchantmen,—will it be contended that more or better seamen will flock to the Navy? The additional public inducements will be bounties, which, as formerly observed, never have proved very productive—the Will-o'-the-wisp of prize-money, which, as already noticed, will be realised chiefly by the light-armed, and not by the masses of shield-and-buckler men—and perhaps an increase in wages, which, as previously showed, will never win this race against mercantile competition. What harm would ensue from prospective or conditional legislation, if a provision should be organised during peace, based on regulated compulsion, to supply the *possible* (we have used this word against our better judgment) deficiencies which may exist after a trial shall have been made of enlistment, aided by such additional encouragement as may then appear most useful? If such a provision should prove superfluous, repeal or let the law repose among others that are useless or obsolete. But if the substitute do fail, on which dependence seems to be placed in opposition to the evidence almost daily afforded of its nullity, recourse must then be had to the ancient mode, which, with all its hideous deformity and danger to domestic tranquillity, will again

have survived and will reign over adverse opinion—this must then be resorted to, under the self-condemnatory conviction, that all was not attempted which might, if not have rendered coercion unnecessary, at least have mitigated the peril and severity of its operation.

As England's salvation against foreign aggression ever depends on the aquatic bias of the people, the ocean, unstable in everything besides, will be a stronghold for her, if she do not neglect to use the obvious means which the services of seamen, however obtained, offer for her preservation. Whether the realisation of them by impressment be legal, or only customary, is alike indifferent to us, who view it solely in a plain matter-of-fact light as a power inherent in all governments, and as one, moreover, which, with all its faults, has contributed to England's greatness, and often has assured her safety when no other human means would have availed; and we cannot but regard all attempts to inculcate a belief that compulsory naval service will be unnecessary in future wars as thoughtless and cruel deceptions, and as an encouragement to hopes for which a candid examination of the real state of the case affords no reasonable foundation. We therefore are utterly averse to any project contemplating a formal and statutory relinquishment of that power, until it be demonstrated that in modern naval warfare it has been, or henceforward can be, replaced by voluntary service; conceiving that nothing less conclusive than a successful experiment in once manning the fleet in war, and speedily, too, by enlistment—the substitute to be available at all times and under any circumstances—will afford such confidence or justify such renunciation. If it be objected that the terms are unreasonable, it is replied, that a nation's existence may be risked by any that are less exigent. Besides, all experience proves that it is sound wisdom to retain an authority for a vital purpose, however popularly obnoxious, or plausibly or virulently it may be assailed, rather than to yield while a reasonable probability remains that a resumption of it may have to be attempted. Considering our actual position as respects this question, would it not be wise forthwith to prepare to call this power into action as much modified as a due examination of the attendant difficulties will admit, and the altered spirit of the times seems to demand? It is on this account that we have deemed the *lull* to be a more favourable season in which to submit the remarks which some practical acquaintance with the details of the subject have suggested, than a time when the public mind, agitated on various grounds, will be inflamed most unseasonably on one that very excusably will enlist its strongest passions and sympathies.

In terminating a series of papers prompted by a deep conviction of the truth of the leading position maintained in them, it may be observed that, however imperfectly the subject may have been treated, it is one with regard to which it is impossible to ascribe interested motives to the writer. Perhaps even it might better square with personal interest to have remained silent, but, as in fable a mouse is said by persevering applications of trivial strength to have freed a lion from his toils, an humble individual may at least endeavour to warn our British lion against the meshes that a false security daily is weaving around his noblest limb—meshes, which, if they be not soon shaken off, will ultimately lead to the outpouring of his own heart's blood, instead of that of his enemies.

W. R. B.

ON NAUTICAL SUPERSTITION.

THE temper of man affords problems which it is very difficult to solve. We have remarked, that a belief in ghosts has been prevalent in all ages; and even now, though weakened and scorned, it is not eradicated—for, as Sir John Smyth observes, there is no “beating reason into the sinciputs and occiputs of some fellows.” Indeed, many have considered the idea to be quite consonant with the physical condition of man, and one which has rather tended to assist the cause of virtue than that of vice. Not a few thinkers have held, that an utter contempt of the doctrine may induce scepticism in graver matters, and that the fear of midnight visitations is at once sane and salutary. “The rustic,” says Coleridge, “would have little reason to thank the philosopher who should give him true conceptions of the folly of believing in ghosts, omens, and dreams, at the price of abandoning his faith in Divine Providence, and in the continued existence of his fellow-creatures after their death.”

That seamen are found in this state of adult infancy is certainly true; though not to the extent ascribed to them. They must have been more abject slaves to superstition formerly than at present, or they would hardly have been marked down by so many authors; and if all the love and dread of the marvellous which is told about them were true, they ought to have figured in with the owl, the hare, and the old woman, of Ripa’s well-known emblem. Reginald Scott remarks—“Innumerable are the tales of wonder among such as frequent the seas, about the noises, flashes, shadowes, echoes, and other visible appearances and noises nightly seen and heard upon the waters.” Smollett, aware of these credulous feelings, makes Commodore Trunnion one of the boldest men alive by daylight; yet, at midnight, drives him into the dreaded noose of matrimony by the glimmer of a bunch of dead whittings. And *Anecdote* Andrews, alluding to this irregularity of character, says—“Superstition and profaneness, those extremes of human conduct, are too often found in the sailor, and the man who dreads the stormy effects of drowning a cat, or of whistling a country dance while he leans over the gunwale, will too often wantonly defy his Creator by the most daring imprecations, and the most licentious behaviour.”

Nor was it only to the least intelligent class of those afloat that these feelings were habitual, there being lots of *on dits* of equivocal conduct on the part of many brave and educated officers. The renowned and successful Sir Charles Wager was an out-and-out ghost-seer: and a distinguished Flag-Officer of the present day has related to us, most circumstantially, how a *bonâ fide* wraith appeared to a Lieutenant, who was drowned on the following evening. The courageous Lord St. Vincent, after sitting up all night with a friend for the purpose, heard such supernatural noises in his sister’s house that he advised her to quit it. And that apparently vigorous-minded man, Henry Teonge, when chaplain of the Assistance, in 1676, records, in his quaint and amusing diary—“At 9 a clock a crickett sang very merrily in the foot of our mizon, and was also heard a little the night before; there was also a death-

watch heard in the gunn-roume. *Deus vortat bene!*" The same reverend gentleman, proceeding in a hoy to join the Bristol, the vessel which conveyed him ran aground, an accident that made him "much admire that all meanes, though never so well intended, should prove so very crosse; thence I prognosticated a crosse voyage, and could I have got but a reasonable price for my goods, I would have returned home again."

While mentioning Parson Teonge, it should be observed that the clergy not only had individuals of their own order infected with this credulity, but as a body they largely encouraged a general belief in ghosts, especially those of holy men, under the plausible pretext of its being one of the methods by which men's minds were tamed, when mental discipline was at a low ebb. In this pious fraud—to use a queer compound—they were aided and assisted by many public instructors, and the whole body of predicant friars, who deemed the delivery of the "delectation of fables with fardells of falsehood" a mighty excellent means of inculcating in the minds of the people the more homely virtues of their condition; and it was sagely considered, that such a process was more peculiarly useful in subjecting soldiers and sailors, whose bodily strength and ferocious valour rendered them otherwise unassailable. Numerous, therefore, were the instances where a weak tincture of truth was strongly "dashed and brewed with lies;" and still more numerous were those to which truth was an utter stranger. Yet the intention was often so good as to partly sanctify the means. Thus Matthew Paris tells us of a great ship of the Londoners being saved during a tempest, in 1190, by the apparition of that blessed martyr Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury repairing on board, and promising safety, not only to her crew, but to the whole royal fleet, on condition that all hands should mend their manners. On another occasion, when the arch-enemy of mankind had got into a ship with the intent of deluding a few souls, St. Lawrence, after whom the vessel was named, being pleased with the good conduct of some of the crew, descended from the skies to protect them. The conflict was long and terrible; but in the end the gridiron prevailed over the tormentors, and Satan was driven overboard with a shout as loud and dreadful as the roaring of the lion of Rabbi Jehosuah Ben Hananiah, at the sound of whose voice all the women aborted, and the people's teeth dropped out of their heads.

But, under every allowance, this mode of treatment deserved *corruptio optimi pessima* for its motto. As if the making of falsehood subservient to gain the ends of truth were to be righteously punished, by generating a chaotic confusion of ideas, it usually happened that the perceptions of right and wrong were undermined by this fluctuating *pro* and *con*,—in the same way that the two algebraic terms of *plus* and *minus* mutually destroy each other, and leave the result as nothing. Hence the innumerable acts of violence committed under the garb of sanctity. Hollingshed, after describing a horrible tempest in the year 1380—in which a fleet was placed in such stress that more than a thousand men lost their lives, and the residue nearly perished by hunger, cold, and fatigue—proceeds to give a strange notion of appeasing the wrath of the Omnipotent. "Some writers," ejaculates the rare old chronicler—"some writers impute this calamitie to light on the said Sir John Arundell (*the Admiral*) and his companie, for the lascivious

and filthie rule which they kept before their setting forth, in places where they laie, till their provision was readie; who, not content with that which they did before they took ship, in ravishing men's wives, maids, and daughters, they carried them aboard with them—

“ *Sæva libido furens, quid non mortalia cogis
Pectora? Quid ve tuo non est violabile telo.*

“ And yet when the tempest rose, like cruel and unmerciful persons, they threw them into the sea, either that they would not be troubled with their lamentable noise or crying, or for that they thought so long as they had such women on board, whom they had abused so long, God would not cease the rage of the tempest.”

The most general effect, however, of the *warranted* ghost-stories among our more modern and more civilised seamen, is to point a moral, without caring to account for appearances by circumstances connected with the physical laws of matter. He who has been much among them must be struck with the fact, that the spectral visits they describe almost invariably arrive at conclusions favourable to right principle, and impress the force and intensity of the Deity's revenge against murder, with little taint of that taste for supernatural revealments of treasure, in which their shore brethren delight. While they reward the virtuous and good, they show the sinner—to use the inspired words of Isaiah—that “ God's right hand is stretched over him still.” It is true that some of their yarns are

————— “ half horror and half whim,
Like fiends in glee, ridiculously grim”—

but they all bear the stamp of good feeling; not so much the mere effusions of spectre-mongers, gloating on horror, as cases of retributive justice. Unlike the village ghost—which mostly scares clodhoppers in a churchyard, to get its bones removed to consecrated ground, or “ bursts its cerements” to announce to some old woman where a few shillings and half-crowns are concealed in a stocking or a teapot—the marine, one is usually the messenger of right. It was thus that the shade of the seaman buried clandestinely in the sands of Rupert Valley, at St. Helena, sat upon his unseemly grave, and became the means of bringing the caitiff who had murdered him to condign punishment, Serjeant Matcham, of the Marines, until he surrendered himself to justice, was followed by the ghost of a drummer-boy whom he had made away with to prevent his appearing as a witness against him, and by which he was haunted as regularly as the old woman in a box did him who was in quest of the talisman of Oromanes. In like manner, the mate of the *Mona* was induced to confess that he had treacherously plunged a messmate overboard in the dark, from being visited nightly by a grinning and hideous white face with goggle eyes, which perched on the foot-clues of his hammock and fascinated his sleepless gaze, while terror gagged his voice, and a monstrous hand, furnished with iron claws, grasping his thighs, prevented his leaping out of bed. So also the *Hermione* frigate was haunted, after the foul assassination of Captain Pigott and his officers, until even *more* than the actual number of mutineers had been executed for the atrocity.

We have said that the belief of supernatural vengeance is apparent in most sea-tales, but in none is it more so than in the notion yet strongly prevalent respecting the loss of the *Association*, with the gallant Sir

Cloudesley Shovel, his two sons-in-law, his officers, and all his crew, on the rocks off Scilly, in 1708. The tradition runs, that while riding at Gibraltar, one of his ship's company fell under the penalty of death by the sentence of a Court-martial, but that some points of evidence being highly favourable to the prisoner, he was warmly recommended to mercy by his judges. The appeal was in vain, for the obdurate Admiral ordered the sentence to be carried into effect, and that *instantly*, in presence of all the fleet. As the last request of a dying man, the culprit beseeched permission for a psalm to be read previous to his execution; which, being granted, he selected the 109th, so remarkable for its maledictive tenor. The moment this was concluded, he cried out, with a loud voice, "Sir Cloudesley, you are murdering a guiltless victim. May the Lord, whom I invoke, as a proof of my innocence to all ages, never allow another officer of your name in the English Navy, and may neither you, nor any of your crew, return home alive!" The further denouncement, if any more were intended, was suddenly cut short by the denouncer's being run up to the foreyard-arm.

Such is the story which we can aver to having repeatedly heard, and generally with the peroration—"So the ship was wrecked with all hands, and we've never had an Admiral of that 'ere name since;" which last, by the way, is no great marvel. Nor did the miracle cease with the death of the brave officer, for his body floated from the Gilston, the rock on which the fated Association struck, as far as Porthelik, a deep cove on the east side of St. Mary's Island. Here it was found by some fishermen, who despoiled and buried it in a spot, where, to this day, "grass refuseth to flourish, although covering every other part around." At the disinterment which soon afterwards took place, it was found that Porthelik would form a very eligible harbour for men-of-war, and thus, say they, Sir Cloudesley's body, in going ashore at that very place, had the future benefit of his country in view, by clearing all the reefs and rocks, and pointing out an advantageous port.*

We trust that by retailing the galley gossip on this illustrious sea worthy, we are merely considered as handing out an absurdity; and that, in mentioning this Association of superstition and misfortune, the reader will afford us the benefit of Voltaire's idea—*Il ne le croit pas: il l'a seulement écrit.*

In this case it is sagely argued that the ghost must have steered its corpse among the rocks, or it never could have made way into the cove. Now, this is a point in that belief to which we have alluded, namely, that shades of the dead hover around, and are permitted to appear and to act on purposes of particular moment. But is it merely seamen who think thus? Elihu mentions destinies, messengers, and intercessors; Daniel, *ourim*, or watchers; and Hesiod, watchers, or spirits. St. Paul speaks of "ministering spirits;" Bishop Clayton wrote to prove the interposition of spirits, or intermediate beings, between God and

* We are aware of the improbable account—said to have been circulated by Lord Romney, Sir Cloudesley's son-in-law—that the excellent Admiral reached the shore alive, and was there murdered by a woman, who afterwards confessed the crime, and restored an emerald ring to the family. It is fatal to the truth of this story, that the said ring is known to have been torn from the finger of the corpse by the above-mentioned fishermen, and was obtained from them by Mr. Paston, the pursuer of the Arundel, who had the body taken up for interment in a more honorable grave.

man, which, in accommodating themselves to our senses, can assume what form or figure they please; and Milton makes his millions of spiritual creatures "keep watch" in bands. So the sea-sage imagines his ship to be constantly beset, and that the supernaturals take their regular stations. Good spirits delight in frequenting the quarter-deck and fore-castle, and occasionally ascend to the tops and mastheads; the evil ones resort to cockpits, storerooms, and holds. The former are partial to fresh air, the latter to the noisome effluvia of bilge water. But even these notions are hardly chargeable to the inventions of seamen; for in the article of olfactories, it is quite notorious how squeamish some apparitions have proved. Aubrey, who is unquestionable authority, tells us of a ghost disappearing, in 1670, with "a curious perfume and most melodious twang;" therein being very unlike the noted Somersetshire devil, which left a scent of a very different kind behind him. The shade of a one-legged cook's mate, which appeared to the cruel boatswain of the *Grampus*, nearly poisoned the guilty recreant with smells compounded of almost every species of abomination, and finally left his cabin chokeful of slush, with a triumphant yell, as much as to say, "Take your vizaments in that."

The belief in this power of material acting, is one of the prominent features of sea-practice, and therein the nautical ghost excels the mere unsubstantial phantom of the castle or the cottage. How otherwise could the murderer on board the *Half-moon* have been detected? Perhaps the reader may have forgotten the case; and, as it is rather strong in point, we will therefore relate it, and that in the words of the narrator. To those who have never heard this legend, it will recommend itself by its intrinsic air of truth.

"So you see the ship was homeward-bound from the Capes of Virginia,—and glad enough we was, because we were old stationers in the West Indies, and wanted a run among our kith and kin, and to fall foul of soft tack again. Well, soon after we clears the land, on comes a sneezer, which grew into a hurricane, the rain pouring cats and dogs, and the wind hard enough to have blown the anchors off the officer's buttons. There we was! Such a mess of broken traps and squaboshery in the lee-scuppers, especially in the barracks, where there was not the breeching of a gun but had three or four jollies hanging on by it, at every parliament-heel.

"Well, this we thought would have lasted, and bothered us on the Banks; but all at once the wind died away, the sea fell, the weather became fine, and every rope was an-end again. At last, as the night set in, there wasn't the slightest heave on the water, the sails hung idly flapping against the mast in faint fits, and every other thing within and without appeared at a stand-still. Part of the watch was a-caulking,—the Lieutenant—having sent for his night-glass, according to his regular custom—was a-walking on one side of the quarter-deck, as stiff as a new-made marine, and the midshipmen was a-turning their hanks on the other. The con seemed to be rather drowsy, and I won't say but the look-outs was a-keeping their eyes warm by shutting them. •

"So it went on till after seven bells in the first watch, when all at once a voice, loud enough to stun a score of boatswains, and all their calls, was heard from the main-top, bawling—'On deck there!' 'Hollo,' sings out the Lieutenant. 'Stand from under,' replies the

voice, in a tone that made every one start again. 'Mr. Lanniard,' says the officer, 'just jump up there, and find me out what bull-calf is a-making that infernal noise,'—and then he turns round and asks which of the main-top-men was aloft; but the captain of the top told him as all his watch was on deck. Presently down comes the midshipman, reporting that he had found no one in or about the mast-head; but while he was a-speaking, out comes—'On deck there!' another time. 'Jump up again,' says the Lieutenant to the reefer,' and catch the fellow who is a sky-larking with us, and I'll give him a precious starting—a brazen-throated rascal.' But he returns soon again, and declares the top to be quite empty,—and everybody thought it strange that no one should know the sound of the voice.

"A minute or two after, this there was—'On deck there!' sung out a third time, at which the Lieutenant was in a woundy rage, but roars out 'Hollo!' 'Stand from under!' again rung in our ears, when the Lieutenant sulkily shouted—'Let go and be d—d to you.' But, by the piper!—only think what a consternation seized upon every one—ay, officers and all—when, with a clap such as hasn't been heard since Adam was an oakum-boy, down drops a coffin, slogs on the quarter-deck, and off flies the lid of it.

"Well, there we stood, quite non-plussed, for a little time. 'Quarter-master,' cries the Lieutenant, 'bring a light,' and 'come here men,' says he to us; but we was all rayther backward in coming forward, for as the lanthorn advanced, we soon saw there was a naked body on his beam-ends in the box, which was dead—very dead—with the brails of his under-jaw all aslack.

"So while we stood flumgusticated, down dives the Lieutenant to report to the Skipper, who was a-sleeping soundly through all the noise, though everybody else was a-tumbling up from below; for you see, being Sunday, he had a-dined in the gun-room. When he was a bit roused, 'Hollo,' says he, 'Mr. Stanchion, hollo, what's the matter?' 'Here's a corpse come aboard, Sir,' returns the officer. 'A corpse!' says the Captain, 'what the devil does it want here?' says he, half asleep; 'throw it overboard, Mr. Stanchion,' says he, sluicing round for another spell. 'Ay, ay, Sir!' says the Luff, and up he mounts. 'Come, my lads,' says he, 'it's the Captain's order that we throw this fellow overboard.' With that the watch turned to, but it was soon found impossible to man-handle the coffin,—do what we would, ply handspikes and crowbars, 'twas all the same—they could neither start it tack nor sheet.

"Away shigrampoes the Lieutenant to report to the Skipper again, with—'Can't move the corpse, Sir.' 'Very extraordinary,' says the Captain, who was now wide awake; 'Turn up the hands, tell the Chaplain to be ready, and I'll be with you in a moment.' So everybody was rowced up, and there we toed a line, all consternated, and a-wondering how this coffin could have got into the main-top; and who the deuce the corpse was, and what lay he was upon. We was all amazement.

"Well, up comes the Skipper, with his article-of-war look on his mug, and he stared about the dead man as if he thought that some one was a bamboxing him. At last he says, says he, 'Mr. Spintext, be good enough to read the funeral service over this mysterious body,

and then perhaps we shall be permitted to commit it to the deep.' Well—prayers was read—and the men was ordered again to move the coffin; but we might as well try to keep the sea from rolling, or the sky from shining, as to attempt that which is impossible—devil a bit could we stir it, or even keep the lid on. The Skipper now looks as black as a thunder-squall—'there is murder in this case,' says he, 'or this here could not have happened. Every man and boy in the ship shall touch that corpse, and shall swear he never harmed it.' So all hands was mustered by the ship's books, and did as was ordered, though many of them was a little squeamish-like about feeling the body, till they was made to do it, whether or no Tom Collins. So when this was done prayers was again read, and another strong man-handling applied, with all the beef we could clap on, but still there was no starting the coffin,—it seemed to be moored head-and-stern there by rag-bolts.

"The Skipper looked blacker and blacker,—'Are you quite sure, Mr. Stanchion,' he asks, 'are you quite sure that every soul in the ship has been here?—that no name has been dodged or missed?' 'Every one atwixt stem and stern-post, Sir,' says the Lieutenant, a-touching his hat,—'every one of 'em, Sir, for I kept a tout upon 'em.' 'Then the Lord's will be done,' says the Skipper, 'for I am fairly pauced.' A reg'lar still silence followed, when the Doctor steps forward, and he says, says he—'There is one man, Sir, what hasn't been on deck, but he's only a passenger as came aboard just as we left, and has been sick in bed ever since, under my care.' 'He must shew a leg,' says the Captain, 'for this here corpse must have come from the shore, and is as likely to be a-following a passenger as one of us.' 'But, Sir,' replies the Doctor, 'he's very ill indeed,—his pulse already beats a dead-march.' 'Hand him up,' roars the Skipper, at his gangway pitch,—'Hand him up, this is no time to stick at niceties.' So down went the boatswain and a few hands to the berth the passenger had brought to in, and told him the Captain's message. On this he fell a-crying and shivering like a sick monkey on a lee-backstay, and told 'em the night air would be the death on him,—and then he asked the question, and put the question, and pushed the question, for a reprieve. But 'twas all no go,—for they obligated him to turn out and rig, allowing about as much time for his toilet as a bear takes, and bundled him stock and fluke up the hatchway, with more celerity than ceremony, sticking to him like sharks at a double bit of pork.

"When he landed on deck, we all stared at him, for few of us had set eyes on him afore, he having managed to come aboard in the dusk. And he warn't no great shakes of a man neither, for he was a kind of rum-bowline built chowder-headed haubuk, with a pale and dismaltised mug, looking as if it had been coddled in brine, and his legs—morticed into his feet amidships—was long, and not a bit too straight. Altogether he look'd wau-wau and woe-begone, and as timersome as if a cap-full of wind would have blown him away. 'Oh, Captain,' squeaks the chap; 'it's cruel on you to drag a poor misfortunate sick man from his bed in this way. I'm *certain* as I know nothing about the corpse. I never wronged no man, therefore let me go down again.' 'Nothing is certain but the uncertainty of everything,' answers the Skipper, 'and you may go below in a few minutes; but first, you cannot refuse, if you

are an honest man, to do that as we have all done,—which is—to step up to that dientical coffin, clap your right-hand upon that body, and there declare, by all your hopes of eternal salvation, that you never did it any harm or injury.’ On this he wanted to fight shy, and was all of a tremblification from gripe to heel, with his teeth a-chattering like the pauls of a windlass when heaving in the slack. But some two-fisted fellows shouldered him forwards, in spite of his bouncible double-shuffle along the deck. All hands gathered round—the passenger was compelled to stoop, and at the same instant the corpse opened its eyes, a wound burst out a-bleeding in the side, a deep groan pierced the air, and it was out-and-out a terrifical spectakel.

“Well, sure enough we had caught the right un,—there was he all doldrified—and there was some of us half mollified at his evident horror and suffering,—but as for the Skipper, he looked such squalls, that we really thought he was going to send him aloft without the help of rat-lines. A pause of some minutes followed, and it was a dreadful pause. At last the Captain seems to have settled his mind, and ordered the Master-at-arms to clap him both legs in irons, for trial. When the pallid wretch was seized up by the Master-at-arms and ship’s-corporals, at that moment there burst from him the most appalling and mournful shriek as was ever heard,—which was immediately answered by a wild and discordant laugh, but whence it proceeded no one knew. However, when the murderer was moored at the bilbo-bolt with a sentry over him, and all the particulars duly logged for evidence against him, prayers were again read by the parson; the coffin—now found to be as light as a feather—was solemnly committed to the deep, a roistering breeze sprung up, and we shaped our course homeward under flowing sheets.”

In this most veracious yarn, we find not only the materiality which a ghost can assume *substantiated*, but also a proof of that most popular belief, which teaches how a murdered corpse gives symptoms of the murderer’s approach. But this credence originated ashore, as all research into ghost-mongering will testify; we, however, are content to prove the position by a single authority, but that authority shall have royalty to stamp it. King James, who has already figured in this our lucubration, in assigning a reason for the justness and reasonableness of detecting a witch by the well-known water ordeal, says,—“For, as in a secret murder, if the dead carcassee bee at any time thereafter handled by the murtherer, it will gush out of bloud, as if the bloud were crying to the heaven for revenge of the murtherer, God having appointed that secret supernaturall signe, for triall of that secret unnaturall crime.”

The corpse of an assassinated man was gifted with other powers besides that of vengeance, for it was universally admitted, that the right hand rubbed gently over a wound, or a wen, led to an effectual cure. This idea extended even to those legally *murdered*;—hence the strange and revolting practice which obtained, till very lately, at executions—men, women, and children, being taken to the gallows, and there rubbed with the dead man’s hand, while he was still hanging. This was a lucrative portion of Jack Ketch’s perquisites of office; and may have gathered strength with the decline of the royal touch power in cases of king’s-evil, the infallible virtue of which expired upon the heresy of Henry VIII., as Delrius, the Jesuit of Salamanca, saith. Aubrey, in his *Miranda* remarks, “Tis certain that the touch of a dead hand hath wrought

wonderful effects,"—adding his attested instance, and recommending that a man be taken to the corpse of a woman, *à contra*, for cures of great moment—

"Compatriot trav'lers o'er life's barren heath,
Who draw with me contemporary breath"—

listen well to that.

The dread, or revulsion, which seizes some of the boldest of men on suddenly encountering a corpse, and that tone of feeling by which some can sit during the night to watch the body of an acquaintance, but shudder if it be that of a stranger, are considered to be the inherent tokens of a knowledge of the future state, by those sages who study the difference between nonentity and identity. We witnessed an instance wherein a sturdy seaman, having taken in his grog, was reeling from "east to west"—like Sir Satyrane in the Faerie Queene—ready to quarrel, or even "to do the die" with any living wight, unexpectedly stumbled upon a dead body. Staring "with all the eyes he had," his whole gait and deportment instantly altered, and, as a poet would say—

"His soul was struck with paralysing fright,
His tott'ring limbs opposed a backward flight"—

so there he stood and gazed himself into almost instant sobriety. A singular proof of the power of mind.

To make an impression on points connected with the public, ghosts make their appearance in shoals, as, according to the evidence of Sir John Temple, in 1642, those at Portifedown Bridge did, after the Irish massacre. So also Admiral Hosier and his sailors haunted the Bastimentos—"all in dreary hammocks shrouded"—until the fall of Porto Bello,—a rumour to which we owe the popular ballad by Glover. But particular offences are usually visited in a more direct and personal manner, to the accomplishment of that superstitious remorse which so severely punishes crime. In illustration of this, we were about to give a singular instance of a guilt-formed phantom in the words of our reciter, but we find the same story so admirably told by Sir Walter Scott—who produced a work on Demonology almost as remarkable as that of Reginald Scott—that we prefer his version:—

"Our mariner had, in his youth, gone mate of a slave-vessel from Liverpool, of which town he seemed to be a native. The Captain of the vessel was a man of a variable temper, sometimes kind and courteous to his men, but subject to fits of humour, dislike, and passion, during which he was very violent, tyrannical, and cruel. He took a particular dislike at one sailor aboard, an elderly man, called Bill Jones, or some such name. He seldom spoke to this person without threats and abuse, which the old man, with the license which sailors take in merchant vessels, was very apt to return. On one occasion Bill Jones appeared slow in getting out on the yards to hand a sail. The Captain, according to custom, abused the seaman as a lubberly rascal, who got fat by leaving his duty to other people. The man made a saucy answer, almost amounting to mutiny, on which, in a towering passion, the Captain ran down to his cabin, and returned with a blunderbuss loaded with slugs, with which he took deliberate aim at the supposed mutineer, fired, and mortally wounded him. The man was handed down from the yard, and stretched on the deck, evidently dying. He fixed his eyes on the Captain, and said, 'Sir, you have done for me, but *I will never leave you.*' The Captain, in return, swore at him for a fat lubber, and said he would have him thrown into the slave-kettle, where they made food for the negroes, and see how much fat he had got."

The man died: his body was actually thrown into the slave-kettle, and the narrator observed, with a *naïveté* which confirmed the extent of his own belief in the truth of what he told, 'There was not much fat about him after all.'

"The Captain told the crew they must keep absolute silence on the subject of what had passed; and as the mate was not willing to give an explicit and absolute promise, he ordered him to be confined below. After a day or two he came to the mate, and demanded if he had any intention to deliver him up for trial when the vessel got home? The mate, who was tired of close confinement in that sultry climate, spoke his commander fair, and obtained his liberty. When he mingled among the crew once more he found them impressed with the idea, not unnatural in their situation, that the ghost of the dead man appeared among them when they had a spell of duty, especially if a sail was to be handed, on which occasion the spectre was sure to be out upon the yard before any of the crew. The narrator had seen this apparition himself repeatedly; he believed the Captain saw it also, but he took no notice of it for some time, and the crew, terrified at the violent temper of the man, dared not call his attention to it. Thus they held on their course homeward with great fear and anxiety.

"At length the Captain invited the mate, who was now in a sort of disfavour, to go down to the cabin and take a glass of grog with him. In this interview he assumed a very grave and anxious aspect. 'I need not tell you, Jack,' he said, 'what sort of hand we have got on board with us—he told me he would never leave me, and he has kept his word. You only see him now and then, but he is always by my side, and never out of my sight. At this very moment I see him. I am determined to bear it no longer, and I have resolved to leave you.'

"The mate replied, 'That his leaving the vessel while out of the sight of any land was impossible. He advised, that if the Captain apprehended any bad consequences from what had happened, he should run for the west of France or Ireland, and there go ashore, and leave him (the mate) to carry the vessel into Liverpool.' The Captain only shook his head, gloomily, and reiterated his determination to leave the ship. At this moment the mate was called to the deck for some purpose or other, and the instant he got up the companion ladder, he heard a splash in the water, and, looking over the ship's side, saw the Captain had thrown himself into the sea from the quarter-gallery, and was running astern at the rate of six knots an hour. When just about to sink, he seemed to make a last exertion, sprung half way out of the water, and clasped his hands towards the mate, calling—'By —, Bill is with me now!' And then sunk to be seen no more."

Closely allied to this credence is that sort of second-sight, in which—whether sleeping awake or in waking sleep—wraiths and apparitions announce the deaths of themselves, or acquaintances, to friends at a remote distance. Innumerable are the recorded *facts* of such communication. An officer in the army, connected with Dr. Ferrier, "and certainly addicted to no superstition," was reading to a Scottish chieftain, who was confined to his bed by indisposition. The night was stormy, and the fishing-boat belonging to the castle was at sea. The old gentleman repeatedly expressed much anxiety respecting his people, and at last exclaimed—"My boat is lost!" The Colonel replied—"How do you know it, Sir?" He was answered—"I see two of the boatmen bringing in the third drowned, all dripping wet, and laying him down close beside your chair." The chair was shifted with great precipitation. In the course of the night the fishermen returned with the corpse of one of the boatmen! Again.—An Admiral on the West India station was

visited one evening, in his cabin, by the shade of a friend whom he had left in England. The spectre looked at first most pleasingly at him, but as the officer became agitated, it began to frown, and gradually, from a comely aspect, assumed the form of a loathsome skeleton. A sudden noise on deck had the effect of arousing the Admiral from his waking vision—he shook himself violently—turned towards the unwelcome guest—

“ ’Twas gone—the spell dissolved—but still his eye
Sought the strange horror through vacuity.”

In this state he was found by the Captain, who came to report, that the noise was occasioned by bringing a vessel to, which had just arrived from Portsmouth. Her dispatches were soon brought on board, and the first letter which the Admiral read, informed him that the body of his friend, who had been missing some time, was found in a coppice in a state of decomposition.

The timing of these appearances and affrights with contemporaneous events, has been the means of establishing many a phantom tale, and forms the basis of a multitude of historical ones. This descends to things as well as the words and thoughts of men, and also to the falling out of every-day events, till accidental and permanent connexions are confounded together. Thus a Livy or a Plutarch would have linked the late disturbance in Canada with the burning of the Royal Exchange; and there happened a circumstance of which much could have been made. At twelve o'clock, when the flames had just reached the north-west angle of the building, and were rapidly making their way to the tower, the chimes struck up, as usual at that hour, the old tune—

“ There’s nae luck about the house,
There’s nae luck at aw;
There’s little pleasure in the house,
When our gudeman’s awa.”

It was the last time, for the whole machinery, bells, clock, and chime-barrels, were quickly melted by the intense heat, or broken to pieces. But what made the coincidence as well as the effect more extraordinary, and aided the conflagration, was the fact, that the man whose duty it was to have remained all night on the premises, had locked the gates and departed for his private ends. In consequence of this no water could be brought to bear upon the interior of the building till its fate was sealed, for it was not till after a considerable time that the great gates were battered open.

Having, we hope, pointed out the sources, we shall close our remarks on Nautical Superstition. But if there be those who still arrogate, that seamen ought to be more involved in the censure due to credulity than the other classes, we exhort them to look at home. It was not by them that the meanest rites of superstition were made prolific of numerical configurations and mysterious stimulants to lottery adventure, or that lucky numbers, suggested by dreams, were followed up. They were not the cause of the recent sale of upwards of sixty editions of a trumpery ‘Weather Almanac,’ in the course of three or four weeks; nor is it to their gullibility and shameful ignorance that every newspaper of the day, and the wrappers of all the periodical literature, are disgraced by vending infallible universal elixirs and deleterious quack poisons. Let the sneerers at Jack recollect the numbers of those who are, at least, classed

among the educated; who still believe in *La Sœur Nativité*—in his Highness Hohenlohe—in Edward Irving—and in Madame de Krudner, and be humble. It is those of straight-hair and artificial groans, who see either the devil or an angel in every public or domestic transaction, and who swear point-blank to all their impious ravings. Sailors never descended so low. It was the blue-light squad who established a mansion in the metropolis, under a most blasphemous designation, where passports to heaven were actually sold for a few shillings each; and a whole people waited, in implicit confidence, for months, for the parturition of a septagenarian virgin, and the resurrection of Joanna Southcott.

But where are we to stop? Was not Napoleon himself, the meteor of the age, so infected with the Sabæan superstition of the natal hour, as to repose his faith in the destinies of a lucky star!

SPECTATOR IN REPLY TO COLONEL MITCHELL
ON PROMOTION BY PURCHASE.

WHATEVER may be the merits of Colonel Mitchell's theory of promotion, he himself must admit that his views are *new*: indeed he takes credit for having originated them within these two years. In resuming, therefore, the former argument, it may be permitted to remind him that, as the proposer of change, he is not warranted in supposing that he alone has a right to set down his antagonists, who support the results of experience, as already overthrown by the arguments which he has brought forward.

As for "*Britannicus*," Colonel Mitchell appears to think he has set him at rest by calling him, ironically, "a distinguished logician," and by telling him that his arguments resembled those which caused the Spanish *auto da fé*, a strange and far-fetched simile, which may puzzle, but can scarcely persuade, the general reader, who, Colonel Mitchell must be aware, is in fact the judge in the cause, and not he himself. Nor will such a judge be influenced by the joke (if meant as such) that "poor little *Britannicus* is no Grand Inquisitor."

Now, whether "*Britannicus*" be tall or little, he seems to write in an unaffected and plain style, and he has in that respect, at least, an advantage over his opponent. It will not do for one who agrees in most of the arguments of "*Britannicus*" to affirm that he had the best of it. It will be a less presumptuous course to leave the decision to the reader, first protesting, however, against Colonel Mitchell's inference, "that any one who dissents from his theories cannot have read them." "*Spec.*," as he calls the writer of this paper, begs to assure him he has read many passages of his arguments more than once, in the hope of making out their meaning; but

"Ter frustra comprensa manus effugit imago
Par levibus ventis volucrique similima somno."

Colonel Mitchell complains that, although when he wrote on tactics, several officers of distinction essentially differed from him, they treated him with courtesy in their replies, but that, when he touched on *Mammon*, by which very odd epithet he is pleased to call "Promotion by purchase," courtesy and logic (he is very fond of quoting logic) were set

aside, and that his adversaries never ventured to quote or face a single one of his arguments. Now, has he a right to say this, or is the reader to be allowed the usual privilege of judging for himself? In the same spirit he requests his reader, in Latin, to restrain his laughter,—“*risum teneatis*”—at the idea of any one supposing him, Colonel Mitchell, to be a military agitator. Let the reader again have his privilege of laughing or not, but there seems nothing to excite merriment in so dry a subject.

It is recorded of Molière that, when he desired to put to the test the drollery of any particular dialogue of the comedy he was writing, he used to send for his old housekeeper, and watch her countenance while he read it aloud to her, for he knew by repeated trials that what made her laugh usually had the same effect on the audience.

Now, if Colonel Mitchell will try the same plan, by requesting any old housekeeper he may know of to listen to his intended sallies before he commits them to print, he may perhaps better be able to find out what is comical and likely to make his reader laugh.

Colonel Mitchell calls it a proof of want of encouragement in our Service that we have no strategical treatises, though he admits that our officers have published excellent works on gunnery, fortification, &c. Now, does he really think that it is from ignorance that Lord Hill, Sir G. Murray, Sir J. Kempt, Sir John Colborne, and other leading officers of the Peninsular War, do not publish some ponderous volumes on the Art of Strategy, after the model of General Jomini? Colonel Napier, it is true, has attempted to introduce, in his History of the War, several imposing lectures on strategy, which, unfortunately for the credit of his book, have been sadly pulled to pieces by a reviewer, who, from the important information to which he had evident access, appears to have been an officer of rank on the Staff of the Peninsular Army. Possibly that able reviewer, and many other such officers, may think Picton's Field Orders, in duodecimo, a better military treatise than many tomes of German strategy. One thing is clear, that, whether the Peninsular Generals were authors or not, they were a class who will go down to posterity with the reputation of no small knowledge of the art of war.

To return, however, to the question of Promotion by Purchase, all the logic of Colonel Mitchell, and the arguments of those antagonists he treats so scornfully, come within a small and easily-defined compass. If you could make sure of a tribunal not only perfectly free from all bias, but possessing a more than mortal insight into character,—and if, besides this, you could have an annual campaign, and promote by merit at the end of each autumn, the same as you give commissions to Cadets at Sandhurst in exact proportion to their proved acquirement,—Colonel Mitchell might reasonably maintain promotion by merit to be feasible to a great extent. But, without such means of trial, who is to say what is merit in each case? Suppose a regiment ten years in cantonments in India, what magic or instinct would enable the Horse Guards to discover which of the thirty subalterns was most deserving of promotion; and suppose them to make the most judicious cast, how are they to convince the other twenty-nine that each of them is inferior to the favoured *merit man*? One may have distinguished himself by some casual act of individual courage, another may shine in the management of soldiers' tempers and habits, a third may be expert at geographical knowledge of country, a fourth may have re-

markable facilities for languages, every one of which qualifications constitute a claim of military merit; but how difficult, or rather impossible, would it be to weigh them fairly in the balance, and make selections against which no one shall have a cause for murmur!

"The Service," Colonel Mitchell declares, "derives no benefit from the advancement of young officers, unless they be also meritorious officers;" but he never fairly explains how the meritorious are to be selected, and, till he gives us this great secret, he must not wonder that we look to the fact before us, that, as matters now stand, officers of regiments see their comrades pass over their heads by purchase with far less vexation to their feelings than if they were to see them promoted by arbitrary influence and selection under the mask of merit. To prove the danger and uncertainty of a *merit* system, take the case of certain naval officers, who, according to report, very recently received appointments to ships immediately on failing in their late elections. Ask the Admiralty, why they gave these officers ships?—they have the ready answer, "We are the judges of naval merit, and we think these officers deserve their ships." Who can gainsay their award? But how would such *merit promotion* be tolerated in the Army? •

Colonel Mitchell overlooks one circumstance, which, in its practical effect, greatly diminishes the annoyance (which, of course, no one denies) of officers purchasing over their comrades' heads, namely, the general tendency of the system to prevent the stagnation of advancement complained of by the Marines; for what officer of the Army, who is acquainted with his true interest, would not prefer entering a regiment where there were most officers likely to purchase, rather than a regiment where it is known there are few purchasers? Nor does Colonel Mitchell sufficiently regard the convenience which often arises from officers retiring by the sale of their commissions, an arrangement, the want of which is much felt by our Ordnance and Marine services, but declares, with much self-satisfaction, that "we have nothing to do with the Marines," and that any comparative allusion to their regulations of promotion is as little to the purpose as a "*lecture on Chinese tulips*." If this is meant jocosely, there is no need of requesting readers *ut risum teneatis*; but if gravely, we venture to ask, what can it possibly be meant to convey?

Colonel Mitchell is apt to introduce in his arguments one of those favourite and very novel theories for which he seems to require more vent than conversation affords him. He tells us that "Dash, Daring, and Confidence are the essentials for Cavalry," and quotes the events of the Peninsular war. Now, if the reader will look back to the various accounts of the Cavalry actions of that war, it will appear that most of the Cavalry mishaps arose from the excess, of Dash, Daring, and Confidence; and that Order, Steadiness, and Prudence were the points in which our Cavalry appeared wanting on the rare occasions where they were unsuccessful. Colonel Mitchell argues, that, because Blücher and Suwarrow were in the full vigour of their character at an advanced age, the general efficiency of an Army does not much depend on youth; but surely he will not deny the fatal disasters which befell the Austrians when their veterans—Beaulieu, Alvinzi, Melas, and others of the same service, were opposed to the younger leaders who sprung from the revolution of France. Marengo was a gained battle, had not Melas, a very fine old officer, been forced to quit the field for repose of infirmities

of eighty-five years. Both Beaulieu and Alvinzi had been distinguished officers in their time, and failed from bodily infirmity of age rather than any want of military knowledge.

In quoting the promotion of the Navy during the war which enabled Nelson to rise so rapidly, Colonel Mitchell forgets that scarce a single day passed at that period without some brilliant opportunity of distinction for our young naval officers individually. Every privateer or merchantman cut out of a harbour by two or three British boats gave an occasion for positive proof of merit in the lieutenant who led the party, and the power vested in the Admirals of foreign stations, of promoting on the spot, did really furnish an honest and fair means of rewarding skill and courage. But the moment peace was declared the Navy lost both the test and the reward which followed it; and interest became the main spring of promotion, and has so continued.

It is no small confirmation of what is here recalled to the reader, that, in one of the Duke of Wellington's dispatches from Spain, he strongly represents the hardship of not being able to promote on the spot for any brilliant and skilful action of regimental officers; and every one will agree with Colonel Mitchell that in cases of actual service before the enemy the General of an Army should have the same power of reward in his hands as is given by the rules of the Naval Service to an Admiral in command at sea.

It is really strange that Colonel Mitchell should blind himself to the present evils of the professed merit promotion in the Navy. He thinks it is enough to say—"Who ever heard of the Navy wanting spirit?" No one ever was so silly as to say the Navy wanted spirit; but that they want a system of promotion fairer than their mock-merit system now in use may be asserted without fear of contradiction.

One of Colonel Mitchell's *vents* cannot here be passed over. He says the Navy have their weak points as well as their neighbours; but they have neither cuirassiers nor *one-handed* lancers—they have neither bear-skin caps to make them hideous, nor *bayonets to make them ridiculous*. Now the caps are a matter of taste—though many experienced officers consider a bear-skin cap, if not too high, one of the best head-dresses for a soldier; but did those who witnessed the attacks of the French cuirassiers at Quatre Bras and Waterloo discover that they were ridiculous? Were the charges of the Polish lancers at Albuera ridiculous? As to the ridicule of bayonets, it would be hardly credible to find any officer who has served with British infantry venturing such a remark, had not Colonel Mitchell thrust into his History of Wallenstein the following paragraph, on a subject about which he apparently desires to challenge discussion on every opportunity. Here are his words:—

"What will posterity think of our bayonets? Will they ever believe that such rickety zig-zags were ever meant to be used in mortal combat? and what idea must future generations form of the historians and dispatch-writers who have gravely ascribed victories to the power of such weapons? What, again, must be deemed of the military intelligence of an age which could tolerate the tactical puerilities founded on the presumed use of a toy which has been brandished with bombastic fierceness for upwards of a century, and has never yet in fair and manly fight inflicted a single wound on mortal man?"

To argue the bayonet question with one who thus treats the historians and dispatch-writers (which last can only mean the Generals in com-

mand of armies during the most warlike century we know of) would be idle;* but it may be permitted to observe to the reader that, setting aside the numerous occasions where the *dispatch-writer of the Peninsular War* alluded to the success of the bayonet, the very recent attack and defeat of the American rebels and desperadoes at Pele Island by Captain Brown gave a striking instance of the value of the bayonet, the spirited use of which saved him and his gallant detachment from being destroyed by the distant fire of a far superior force. Even this small but very creditable affair seems sufficient to refute Colonel Mitchell's assertion at page 105 of his *History of Wallenstein*, that *no manly contest takes place between modern infantry: everything is effected by distant firing*. Now Captain Brown proved the reverse by engaging in a manly contest with the bayonet, which prevented his destruction by distant firing.

In Colonel Mitchell's "*Wallenstein*," a work of much interest and merit (though he has thought proper to disfigure it with extraneous and inapplicable matter in order to give vent to his peculiar theories), there is another passage which he must not be surprised to see brought forward here, to show what an arbitrary tone he assumes and what utter contempt of general opinion he displays. Speaking of Napoleon, he gravely declares the "*insignificance of his military talents*." Now, can Colonel Mitchell produce one single military man of distinction, either of those who served under Napoleon or against him, who will admit this wild, desultory, unsupported, opinion, that Napoleon's military talents were *insignificant*?

It would tire the reader to follow Colonel Mitchell through pages of declamation, such as "*the worship of mammon and essence of tuft-hunting*," not even leaving out the devil himself, for he talks of "*Satan taking notes with a smile*;" but it will be enough again to display the general spirit of his reasoning by another quotation from his *Wallenstein*. At page 286 Colonel Mitchell says—"In the English service no one speaks in favour of the soldiers, and promotion is sold for money or given according to the interest of the parties, and always, as an inevitable consequence of such a system, with a perfect disregard to merit."

No one speaks in favour of the soldiers! If the evidence before the House of Commons Committee be of any value, it would appear that a general solicitude is incessantly exercised by regimental officers for the welfare of the soldiers, and that the authorities take every possible occasion of attending to regimental recommendations, by appointing sergeants to those commissions of Adjutant, Quarter-master, and Riding-master, for which they are most fitted by habit and education, and to which they look forward as their reward. Can Colonel Mitchell sincerely disclaim being an agitator when he publishes such sentences as these—*in the English service no one speaks for the soldiers?*—and that, as to officers, *promotion is always given with a perfect disregard to merit*.

He quotes the case of an officer of cavalry (Captain White, of the 13th

* In the last number of the United Service Journal at p. 82, the reader will find a letter from the late Sir T. Picton, dated from Torres Vedras, after the battle of Busaco, in which he says, speaking of the enemy's attack on his division, "I had the good fortune to repulse him with great slaughter in four different attempts to penetrate my line, which were all repelled with the bayonet."

Dragoons) who was unhappily killed before he had received promotion for a notoriously gallant action. Here was no doubt a case where the General in command should have had the power of instant reward, allowed to every Admiral on service: however, Captain White's death occurred within two years of the action in which he distinguished himself, and it is hard to assert that his claims would never have been attended to had he lived longer, especially as the Service has, at this moment, the satisfaction of seeing in command of regiments so many cavalry officers who served with credit in the Peninsula. For instance, the 2nd Dragoon Guards, 4th Dragoon Guards, 5th Dragoon Guards, Carbineers, 7th Dragoon Guards, 12th Lancers, 14th Light Dragoons, 15th Hussars, not one of whom is supposed to be either rich or possessed of any interest beyond his claim on the score of meritorious service.

The proportion of officers who have risen to command of regiments by merit in the Infantry is in the same proportion. How, then, is it possible that any one who really knows the present condition of our Army can, in respect of the manner in which it is officered, agree with Colonel Mitchell, that promotion is always given either with *perfect disregard to merit*, or with *disregard of the security of the empire and efficiency of the Service?*

SPECTATOR.

NARRATIVE OF THE LATE CARLIST EXPEDITION FROM THE PROVINCES.

BY AN EX-CARLIST OFFICER.

No. II.

AFTER remaining at Huesca so long a time that the Christinos were enabled to collect another Army along the banks of the Ebro, the Carlist expedition moved eastward to Barbastro, on its road to Catalonia. Having lost the opportunity afforded by their last victory of crossing into Lower Arragon, the Carlist Generals deemed it the most secure course to effect a junction, in the first instance, with the insurgent Catalans, and afterwards with Cabrera, until, like a river which increases in strength as it flows onward and receives the waters of tributary streams, their force should have attained such magnitude as to enable them to pounce at once upon the capital. At Barbastro, however, aware that the enemy was following them up again, they waited to give him battle before proceeding further. The broken ground and olive-gardens which clothe the sides of the hills which extend round the city of Barbastro, and to within half a league of its walls, afforded highly favourable positions for the infantry, and most advantageous grounds for the Tirailleurs. Oraa, having assembled 13,000 men, exclusive of the remains of the French foreign legion and a numerous corps of artillery, did not for a moment hesitate attacking the Carlist army, which, occupying the ground we have described, calmly awaited his attack. The onset made by the Queen's troops, as in the previous action of Huesca, was very fierce in the first instance, but their leader, aware that if he could not force in their line at once he would be unable

to do so afterwards, probably continued the attack rather to draw the Carlists from their vantage ground than with any other object. The French foreign legion advanced with great intrepidity, but were again successfully opposed by their own deserters and several detached companies of provincial battalions, and retired in great disorder. Colonel Conrad, their commander, was mortally wounded,—it is said by his own soldiers, as he was forcing them on to the fight. It is certain that after this event they could no longer be kept together. The fall of the gallant Conrad was the death-blow to his corps, which had done no inconsiderable service to the Queen's cause since it had disembarked from Africa, and whose conduct as soldiers had been as praiseworthy as it was detestable as men. As it was the last of fields for Conrad, so it was for his legion, and, with characteristic ingratitude, when it was destroyed as a body at Barbastro, the Queen's Generals endeavoured to heap contumely and disgrace on the survivors, charging them with indiscipline and cowardice, although every officer was killed or wounded in the action. Composed mostly of old soldiers—deserters from every service in the world, or the worst characters in the French army, the legion had acquired a veteran character by the long and harassing service it had performed against the Bedouins, and, whilst kept within the bounds of a most rigid discipline, its excellence, in a military point of view, was undeniable; but all the horrors of the civil war were thrown completely into the shade, by the monster's cruelty and deep depravity which pervaded this corps, in which seemed to have been concentrated all the vices we have ever heard or read of: even the habit of companionship, which influences both in the human species and the animal kingdom, with the exception of the wolf, the most savage beings, seemed entirely lost on these ferocious soldiers. The instant one of their own people was wounded it was the custom to despatch him, for the sake of the miserable spoil he might afford.

On the formation of the Carlist legion from the deserters, a French nobleman informed us that, in the first affair in which he was engaged with his company, he perceived two soldiers lay down their muskets and beat in the skull of their wounded comrade with ponderous stones; after which they proceeded to despoil him. He ran his sword through the body of one of the wretches, but found that the custom was so prevalent that there was no possibility of putting an end to it, and he threw up his command in disgust. The galley-slave, the murderer, and the parricide seemed all to have found a refuge in these "black bands," who were, apparently, as fearless of all laws, human and divine, as they were of the enemy, and their nearly total annihilation on both sides at Huesca and Barbastro was almost the only event, during the civil war, to which one can look with no regret. After repulsing the attack of the enemy successfully, Moreno, the Carlist chief of the staff, assumed the offensive, encouraged by the enthusiasm of his men. Although far inferior, in point of numbers, the cavalry of the provinces was, as we have already stated, in very excellent condition, and, flushed with their victory at Huesca, advanced so boldly, that after a few successful charges their adversaries sounded the retreat, which was begun in the greatest confusion, and attended by a heavy loss. With all the caution of age, Moreno was afraid to take advantage of the tide of victory the moment it had turned, and contented himself with driving his adversary

from the field. Both parties suffered very severely during this affair. The Carlists—on account of their being in a great measure sheltered at its commencement, and of its termination being so favourable to them,—less than the Christinos, but still they had 500 men *hors de combat*.

The cavalry behaved admirably; and in this affair and Huesca had forty officers killed and wounded. Both in the manner in which it was fought, and its result, this action bore a strong resemblance to the preceding one; and the Carlist Generals behaved as injudiciously and unaccountably after it as they had done when placed under similar circumstances before. They had determined to cross the Cinca, the only natural obstruction on their road to Catalonia, but remained so long inactive after it, that the enemy had full time to recover from the last blow. The river was crossed on boats and rafts, and the whole Army had passed over, excepting the 5th battalion of Castile, which was left to protect the baggage, and the rear, when the enemy appeared on the adjacent heights and opened a heavy fire of artillery, under which it became impossible for them to effect a passage. Perfectly aware of this, the devoted Castilians, although the mules and baggage of the court occupied the boats, made no attempt to crowd into them, although they were being sacrificed for a set of worthless lacqueys and muleteers, who, for fear of being pursued, ungratefully sunk them, when safe on the other side, leaving their defenders to perish. Nearly all of them rushed into the river: about eighty men and one captain got safe over, but all the rest of the battalion were either killed, drowned, or made prisoners.

After the passage of the Cinca the Army marched rapidly into Catalonia, through the Conque de Tremps, and here began those privations and sufferings by which it was so much reduced, and that right arm of armies, its disciplined cavalry, nearly destroyed by famine. The king had tarried so long in Upper Arragon that the Baron de Meer had collected an imposing force, and, retiring in the direction of Guisona, where, from a chain of garrisons, he would be in no want of provisions, remained in observation.

The canon Tristany el Ros d'Erolles, "the red-haired man of Erolles," and several other Catalan chiefs, came with a considerable numerical force, divided into regular but ill-equipped and indisciplined battalions, making the greatest protestations of loyalty and devotion, but yielding very little real obedience, and leaving the Army totally destitute of provisions. So great is the provincial spirit of the Catalans, and their hatred of all foreigners and strangers, that, although the whole population, with the exception of that of the sea-coast and a few large towns, were so Carlist as, by its unaided exertions, to have subverted the Queen's authority over three-fourths of the principality, still, when the very Sovereign in whose cause they had taken up arms arrived with an army from the provinces which had first commenced the glorious resistance to usurpation, instead of looking on them as brethren embarked in the same arduous enterprise, they were at no pains to conceal their jealousy and dislike, and they evidently preferred being plundered and tyrannised over by the numerous chiefs who had no interest in bringing the civil war to a termination, and who were never united except for purposes of oppression, to attaining their end by the aid or assistance of any force which was not Catalanian. Although the bands of Catalans were

perfectly well fed, no rations could be procured for either men or horses of the regular army, and although a real scarcity existed, the extent to which the most needful succours were withheld arose from the ill-will of the inhabitants, who buried and concealed their provisions. The troops were left for whole days without food of any kind being distributed, and, after displaying admirable patience and forbearance, were forced by necessity to separate from their columns and endeavour to forage for themselves.

Under these circumstances, the Carlist Chief of the Staff determined to attack the Baron de Meer, hoping that a victory would have a favourable effect on the temper of the Catalans, and place him in a position to use more rigorous measures to ensure obedience and the means of subsistence. Having united a large force of Catalans under Tristany el Ros, he proceeded towards Guisona. The Baron de Meer, whose advantageous position was further strengthened by a chain of forts, and whose troops were well fed and in good order, awaited the attack. Fortune seemed at first to favour the Carlists, till the Catalans, being seized with a panic, fled, and carried inextricable confusion into the ranks, and the whole army was scattered to the four winds of heaven. So complete was the rout that next morning neither Don Carlos nor the Chief of his Staff knew whether they should be able to collect a thousand men together again. The Christinos, however, handsomely returned the kindness of the Carlists at Huesca and Barbastro, by immediately desisting from the pursuit, and remaining inactive after their victory during the full time necessary for the beaten army to reassemble. The loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, was less than might have been expected, and did not exceed 1000 men, the Catalan peasantry exerting themselves to the utmost to save the fugitives from the sword whom they would not from famine and its consequent indiscipline and disorder.

The destitution of the expeditionary force after its dispersion at Guisona still further increased, and even General Officers were literally starving, and repeatedly forced to feed on bran fried in rancid oil. All subordination being destroyed, the soldiers, in their attempts to procure provisions for themselves, either singly or in isolated bands, still further indisposed the peasantry towards them; and in the environs of Solsona, the heart of the insurgent country, above forty Navarrese stragglers were murdered by the Catalans. Although the Catalan Carlists, under arms, amounted to nearly 19,000 men, all hope was given up of uniting them to the expedition, whose numbers, from sickness and the three severe engagements that had taken place since they left the provinces, were now much reduced. The Colonels of every battalion into which this vast Catalanian guerrilla was formed were perfectly independent chiefs, generally men of local influence, but who grossly abused the power which they had acquired over their followers, by their shameful extortions in the district, which they swayed in the most absolute manner: never united, excepting for purposes of evil, they all agreed in thwarting the views of Don Carlos and his Generals, whose presence could not fail to be a disagreeable check on their authority.

All hopes were now directed towards Cabrera, who despatched messengers entreating the King to attempt the passage of the Ebro, the southern bank of which he occupied with a large force. As usual with Spaniards, he much exaggerated his means and resources, but in the

desperate circumstances in which the provincial army found itself, their hopes still further magnified their extent. At the very moment when the Baron de Meer began to awaken from the inactivity which, after all, was the salvation of the army, intelligence was received that Cabrera had defeated the Christino column guarding the passage of the Ebro, and captured their armed boats. The royal army reached the shores of this fine river in the most miserable plight; an immense number of sick had been left at Salsona, and those who were able to join the undisciplined crowd into which the warlike and well-appointed battalions that crossed the Arragona had degenerated looked wan and wasted by famine. Of 1200 excellent horses, only 450 crossed the Ebro, the rest having perished from want of forage. Moreno even deemed it unadvisable to risk an attack from a small column which still occupied the northern bank, which he therefore skilfully deceived by laying siege to the town of San Pedor, and then rapidly passing the river. Cabrera, with a large force, received the King on the other side; and a striking difference was immediately perceptible in the arrangement of everything in the country under the despotic rule of one man—that man being an excellent administrator—and the unfortunate district they had left, which was torn by the jealousies and divided sway of innumerable chieftains. The battalions Cabrera had with him were all well armed, disciplined, and dressed; the most blind obedience and deference was paid to all his commands by the inhabitants; and for the first time since it had entered Catalònia the provincial army found itself properly rationed; the regulations, too, which he had established for the prevention of disorder, and the protection of the peasantry, and all of which were under *peña de la viuda*—a threat which he rigorously carried into execution—had an almost magical effect in restoring the discipline of the King's divisions. The comparative abundance, however, which reigned in the Carlist camp, and the appearance of their new auxiliaries, excited hopes which were not afterwards realised. Cabrera had collected his picked men for the occasion, and southern Catalonia and the mountains of Arragon and Valencia were far from being the land of plenty they at first appeared. The two former are mostly rugged and barren, and Valencia, although one beautiful garden, does not produce enough corn for its own consumption—and grapes and orange-flower blossoms will not supply the place of bread, which, for the soldier, is indeed the staff of life. Only the excellent management of Cabrera could have enabled him to maintain the army he had on foot, which amounted to 22,000 armed men, who, if things had been carried on as in Catalonia, would have been dispersed by hunger at the end of the first fortnight.

It is impossible to pass through Cabrera's country without at once coming to the conclusion that he is no ordinary man, particularly when a journey through Upper Catalonia has enabled one, by the contrast, to form some idea of the difficulties which he has surmounted. His person is no less striking than his character: below the middle stature, his slim and active figure is well proportioned to his height; his features, which otherwise would be ignoble, are quite redeemed by the vivacity of his dark eyes, which at times give an expression of inconceivable fierceness to his countenance, with the Moorish swarthiness of which the whiteness of his eyeballs strangely contrasts. The width of his nostril,

too, although it does not add to the comeliness of his appearance, reminds one of the fiery Valencian horses he rides. His stiff black beard is very perceptible, although closely shaven, excepting a narrow strip upon his upper lip. His costume is a green military frock, light blue trousers, and a white berret. He generally is mounted on the swiftest horses he can find, on which his seat is very ungraceful, his toe being pointed downward to meet the long stirrup. He is nearly always at a gallop, and followed by a numerous staff, his natural restlessness or activity never allowing him to rest.

Cabrera is now about seven-and-twenty: his father, who was a privateer, left his mother in very reduced circumstances: but, desirous of educating him to the church, she sent her only son to the college of Tortosa, where he made so little progress, and was so exceedingly wild, that he could never get beyond what is called "*primera tonsura*," or the first tonsure. He was distinguished by his devoted affection to the parent whose tragic fate afterwards excited over the whole civilised world so much indignation and horror. When his friends could find no means of fixing his attention to his studies, the grief which his mother would experience, and the sacrifices she was making to support him at college, were always an argument which produced an immediate though transient effect.

On the death of Ferdinand he publicly advocated the legitimacy of Don Carlos in one of the *cafés* of Tortosa, before some of the officers of the garrison, who reported it to the Governor. The Governor sent for the young student, and threatened to incarcerate him unless he was more prudent in the expression of his political sentiments; and Cabrera, leaving the city the same evening, joined the band of Carnicer.

He continued as lieutenant with that chief till his followers were dispersed, and, gradually rising in the confidence of his associates after his death, collected a small force under his own command, and, by that superiority which so soon gives a merited ascendancy to master-minds, united all the insurgent chiefs into one army under his absolute command. His unparalleled bravery, which is almost like that of the fabled heroes of dark ages, was probably one potent cause of the rapidity and facility of his rise. It is stated of him on the most unquestionable authority that, in his first combat, when, with a party of guerrillas who were lying in ambush to surprise a small column they had watched in the plain, he was told to go to the rear as he had no sword, he pointed to the officer who was advancing at the head of his party, and said that the sword he carried in his hand and the horse he rode upon should be his. Although the guerrillas were beaten off, Cabrera, armed only with an oaken bough, slew the officer and carried off his arms and his steed.

In the affair of Chivas, of which we shall speak hereafter, a troop of cuirassiers had charged a broken battalion of Arvese. Cabrera, who had only nine officers and orderlies with him, unhesitatingly charged. To have thus dispersed a troop of Spanish horsemen was the least remarkable part of his feat, but these were evidently good men and true, as Cabrera, after cutting down the captain with his own hand, retired, leaving six of his nine men dead upon the field. Before the death of his mother, an event to which he constantly alludes, he was remarkable for his humanity, but since then a determined ferocity of character, of which his features are too faithful an index, seems to have assumed

the place of the more kindly feelings which the barbarity of his enemies has rooted out.

The talent of Cabrera, notwithstanding these warlike traits, is not, however, military. Although his prodigious activity and the energy of his character have enabled him to carry on a most successful guerrilla warfare, he appears to be rather formed to perform the part of a Masaniello than of a Mendoza, and his genius is of that kind which obtains an ascendancy in stormy times, and collects the scattered forces of party, rather than of the leader who, like the skilful chess-player, guides them to the best advantage. He has no military vanity—he had armed his two-and-twenty thousand men after the example of Zumalacarrégui from the spoils of the enemy, and rendered himself master of an immense tract of country after two-and-thirty fights and skirmishes, in thirty of which he was successful; but he admitted frankly that his own troops were still inferior to the Christinos, and that, ignorant himself of all the technicalities of his art, his successes had been obtained by always avoiding an engagement unless he could fall on the enemy with triple forces.

On a closer inspection it was found indeed that the discipline and distribution of his army were superficial and defective; he had broken the untamable spirit of the guerrillas, and reduced them to a perfect obedience, but, having thus rendered himself master of all the materials, he did not understand how to perform the less difficult part of his task, by setting the machine properly into motion. It is true that every man in possession of a warlike force labours under a singular disadvantage if he has never received an education in some way military, or served in regular armies, whose present arrangement—the result of the experience of many centuries, and the wars and leaders they have brought forth,—may be compared to a huge pyramid to which each one has added something, but to whose height no one individual can hope to attain, unless he take the labours of his predecessors as a basis, and profit by the experience of those that have gone before him.

The superiority of Cabrera as an administrator was, however, everywhere apparent, and the excellence of the system he had introduced had enabled him to fix his power upon a more solid foundation than the mere chances of reverse or victory. In every village he had established commandants of arms, who performed all the duties of a police for Don Carlos, and throughout Valentia and Arragon he had enlisted nearly all the able-bodied men, who were regularly registered by battalions and companies, although only called from their homes as he could find arms to supply them with, or as they were required by the casualties of war, to fill up vacancies in the ranks of his armed troops.

The mountainous part of southern Arragon, whose chief defence consists in its ruggedness and poverty, had been, since the commencement of his insurrection, the stronghold of Cabrera. Like most of the other Carlist chiefs, he wisely trusted more to the natural strength of the country than to stone walls and forts, and had not garrisoned any place excepting Cantavieja, where he had established his hospitals, his foundry, and his manufactories of arms and gunpowder—and even Cantavieja, a town of inconsiderable size, owed its strength not to its own defences so much as the impenetrability of the surrounding country. On three sides its walls rest on the high perpendicular rock, but on the

fourth a wide plateau affords every convenience for besieging it, provided the besiegers can bring up their artillery through the next six leagues of road, where defiles, and precipices, and guerrillas impede their advance at every step. Unable from his local position to obtain any succours from abroad, he has been obliged to trust to the precarious supplies which he could either conquer or purchase from his enemies—the Christiano authorities not unfrequently selling, in the true spirit of commerce, at a very cheap rate, the arms and ammunition they had obtained still more cheaply from England. But the jealousy of that portion of the lynx-eyed population of the towns which did not profit by the bargain, and the mistrust of the contracting parties, did not allow this trade to become as flourishing as was mutually desired. Cabrera was, consequently, generally in want of gunpowder, of which his soldiers, like all irregular troops, used no inconsiderable quantity, and the scarcity of cartridges was never greater than when the royal army, which was entirely without this necessary article, effected its junction with him. He had, indeed, obtained some loads of saltpetre, but, although all the workmen at Cantavieja were busy in manufacturing it into gunpowder, the royal divisions remained so entirely destitute of ammunition that until it could be obtained it would be impossible to commence active operations. All the artillery that Cabrera possessed consisted of some old heavy guns; but, in the foundry which he had just established, he undertook to cast some field-pieces, the want of which the expeditionary army had so sorely experienced. Meanwhile an attempt was made on the city of Valencia, which had been left in a very inadequate state of defence; but the Portuguese Legion, having embarked at Barcelona on board some British steamers, landed there before the Carlists reached it, whilst Oraa, with an army of 15,000 men, advanced to its relief by land, and surprised them near Chivas, whither they had retired after the failure of their *coup de main*. Several whole companies of a battalion, of which the soldiers, quartered in a village below, were cleaning their muskets, were either captured or cut to pieces: the rest of the army were, however, soon drawn up in battle on the heights, where they were attacked by Oraa with the greatest determination. Although obliged to husband their ammunition, the positions occupied by the royalists were defended with great obstinacy for several hours, after which they retired with the greatest *sang froid* and order to the next heights, which overlooked those they had been defending; and here the same thing, and their subsequent abandonment, took place again; thus, although retreating by degrees, they fought so steadily that Oraa desisted from his attack, and from all pursuit. The Carlist head-quarters retired to the neighbourhood of Cantavieja, where it was more easy to avoid an engagement, until their supplies and artillery were ready. To attain this object more easily, and to overcome the difficulty of feeding even so small an army in so barren and rugged a country, two divisions only remained with the King: Cabrera, to effect a diversion, occupied the confines of Valencia and Arragon; Sanz, with the Navarrese, marched to the sea-coast about Castellon de la Plana, where he collected horses and provisions; Quilez, with the Arragonese, was sent in another direction; and all the cavalry entered the rich plains south of Zarragossa, where the abundance of forage and the evenness of the country it was hoped would considerably ameliorate its condition. Oraa, having

advanced, amused himself with pursuing Don Carlos and his two divisions, who continued to fly before him, but always within a ring-fence, as he had done in the commencement of the war in the Basque provinces. On one occasion he was, in truth, very near capturing him near Mirambelle: the guide, having misunderstood the direction in which he was required to go, had led him right upon the enemy instead of away from him, and the mistake was only discovered when within a quarter of an hour's march of the Christinos. The approach of Espartero, who was said to be at Daroca, with 18,000 men, caused the greatest consternation, as for ten days or a fortnight it would be impossible to get ready the ammunition, shoes, &c., which were indispensable to render the army in fighting order; and, meanwhile, with such an accumulation of force, Cantavieja and all its magazines might be carried, and the position of the King thus be rendered very desperate. Fortunately, at this juncture, the rapid advance of Zariategui, who, with another expedition, had left the provinces, and was carrying everything before him between the Ebro and Madrid, forced Espartero to make a retrograde movement to cover the capital; and the divisions, or rather brigades, of Quilez and Sanz having been called in, the provincial army—which having been ^{called} joined by several hundred stragglers from Catalonia and some recruits—now amounted to 8000 men—marched again in very excellent order; and Oraa, feeling himself too weak to attack them in the mountains, and beginning to suffer from hunger, retired to Daroca, dividing his force into two divisions, the second under the command of Burens, and both remaining in observation of the Carlists. Having completed the distribution of shoes and cartridges, and received four small field-pieces, which, being only of 4 lb. calibre, although exceedingly well cast, were likely to be of little service—the whole expeditionary army marched towards the rich plains of Carinena, and made halt at Villar de los Navarros, a small village on the confines of the plain and mountainous country. Moreno here found that Burens was in the plain, and Oraa, occupying Daroca on his left, would immediately fall upon his rear if he advanced: finding, however, that he did not move forward, Burens determined to attack him, and despatched a messenger to Oraa, concerting a simultaneous advance from opposite sides, so that they should effect their junction before the enemy. The messenger was, however, intercepted by a party of Manuelines horse in the village of Herrera, and the dispatch found upon him—and a few hours after, Burens, who was not informed of his mishap, commenced his march and entered Herrera, which is about one league distant from Villar de los Navarros, at the extremity of a wide uneven plain which fills up the intermediate space. Judging from the inactivity of Oraa that no other dispatch had reached him, Moreno sent the Alavese division, under Sopelana, to watch the road, which, following the banks of the Almonacid River, enters the high road from Carinena to Daroca—and along this parties of horse were stationed to give intelligence of any movement, that the Carlist army might have time to retreat. Having taken these precautions, Moreno prepared to give Burens battle.

BRITISH SETTLEMENTS ON THE GOLD COAST.*

IN our last article upon the British settlements on the coast of Guinea,—after a brief recapitulation of their past history,—we shortly touched upon their soil, climate, natural productions, and the general character of the natives, in the hope (which we are gratified to find has not been in vain) of drawing the attention of all who are interested in African civilization and commerce, to those hitherto neglected settlements; satisfied that, rightly understood and appreciated, they are surpassed by few of our colonies in moral, commercial, and political interest. We now proceed to look upon them, and to show their utility and value, in another point of view,—namely, as connected with, and as constituting, in fact, an important and essential link in, the abolition of the slave-trade.

In our former article, we showed that these settlements had been originally formed, and that, up to the passing of the slave-trade abolition act, in 1807, they had continued to be maintained, for the sole and avowed purpose of supplying negroes for the transatlantic slave-markets; and that from the year 1661,—the date at which Cape Coast Castle and its dependencies were finally attached to the British crown,—these establishments constituted the great emporium whence the British West India colonies were supplied with slaves. Such being the case, and considering also the vast number of slaves which were annually exported, in order to meet the demands of so extensive a market, we are fully warranted in affirming that in no part of Africa was the slave-trade more firmly rooted, or more systematically and extensively carried on, than in these settlements. What is now termed legitimate commerce was, previously to the passing of the abolition act, but little thought of, and only attended to in so far as it was ancillary to the grand object—the acquisition of slaves for the West India markets. Gold dust, which may now be termed the staple article of commerce on the coast of Guinea, was not, as is now the case, eagerly purchased by merchants as forming a valuable remittance to Europe, but as constituting a standard of value, and a local currency, whereby the purchase of slaves was greatly facilitated: consequently, but little more gold-dust was collected and brought into the market from the interior than was sufficient for that purpose.

The slave-trade, also, appeared to be a species of traffic especially adapted to the genius and habits of the people among whom it had so long flourished,—or, more correctly speaking, perhaps,—the genius and habits of the people had been modelled to what they were by the slave-trade. This traffic, even when carried on peaceably, and in its least revolting shape, necessarily induces an aversion to,* and even an utter contempt for, all industry and labour, properly so called; for all manual and bodily labour was performed only by that class, who were looked upon as so much *stock*, and who were bought and sold as such. But this effect upon the character of the people was but *one* of the evils that resulted from the slave-trade in that respect. Daily accustomed to

witness scenes of the most cold-blooded cruelty, they became utterly callous to human suffering; unrestrained by any form of law or sense of justice, each petty chief oppressed and plundered his weaker neighbour, to be, in his turn, plundered and oppressed by a stronger and more powerful than himself. In no portion of Africa, in short, were the demoralising—the brutalising—influences of the slave-trade more fully developed, more fearfully displayed, than in those extensive tracts of country which now form, or are adjoining to, our settlements on the Gold Coast.

Such, then, was the state of that unhappy country, such the debased character of its inhabitants, when, in 1808, the act of Parliament for the abolition of the slave-trade came into force. It will be readily imagined that the change was most unpalatable to all parties, save and except, perhaps, to the slaves themselves. Why the exportation of slaves should be prohibited, was to the native population utterly unintelligible. That the Government and people of England should wish to abolish a lucrative trade from motives of mere abstract humanity, was, to them, altogether incredible. They exclaimed also against the abolition-act, as pregnant with ruin to their principal source of wealth, and as an unjust and unwarrantable interference with their lawful and inherent right to dispose of their property as they thought fit. In these sentiments many of, if not all, the Europeans with whom they came into contact fully concurred; and the opinions of the natives upon the subject were therefore confirmed, and their feelings excited, when they heard the whites themselves—the soundness of whose judgment in such a matter they could not doubt—openly and loudly condemn a measure which they alleged would not only destroy a valuable and lucrative traffic, but must eventually prove ruinous to our West India colonies.

Here, then, was a portion of Western Africa—embracing a line of coast of some 260 miles in extent—where the slave-trade had been planted, protected, fostered, and encouraged for centuries; and where, therefore, it may be supposed to have, and where, in point of fact, it had, taken root more firmly than in any other part of that vast continent. Can any subject then, we would ask, possess a deeper interest for those philanthropic statesmen who have devoted their time, their talents, their energies, their lives, to the attainment of that grand object which has so long engaged the attention of Christian Europe—the entire abolition of the infamous slave-trade;—can any subject, we say, possess for them a deeper interest than an inquiry into the history, for the last thirty years, of that portion of Western Africa? Before, however, entering on this inquiry, let us glance for a moment at what have been the general effects of the abolition act.

It is admitted on all hands—and, if it be not, we are prepared to prove—that, notwithstanding the treasure that has been so lavishly expended, the lives that have been sacrificed by climate, and the blood that has been spilt, the slave-trade abolition act has utterly failed in its object. That act, which was dictated by the purest philanthropy, and intended as a first instalment towards the liquidation of that vast debt of justice which Great Britain owed to Africa—that act proved, unhappily, a curse instead of a blessing to the unfortunate beings for whose protection it was passed. Before the slave-trade was declared illegal, whatever horrors it occasioned—and they were dreadful enough—previously to

the shipment of the wretched beings who formed the cargo, or after their disembarkation in the West Indies, almost every precaution that humanity could suggest was adopted to ensure their well-being and comfort during the "middle passage." Several acts of Parliament were passed for the better regulation of the slave-trade, which were rigidly enforced. All vessels intended to be employed in the trade were obliged to have a certain height between decks; the number of slaves to be embarked was limited according to the tonnage of each vessel, while no vessel, however large, was permitted to carry more than 400. Bounties were made payable to the commander and surgeon of each ship whose cargo was not diminished by death (on her arrival at her destination), beyond a certain per centage. Every surgeon of a Guineaman was obliged to pass an examination as to his ability and fitness, before a board appointed for the purpose. Every vessel, before being allowed to clear out, was obliged to have on board a certain stock of provisions, and sufficient water-casks or tanks, according to the number of her intended cargo. And, in short, so admirable were the regulations under which the legalised slave-trade was carried on, that we are fully warranted in stating that the slaves, during their transit from the coast of Africa to the West Indies, were, at least, as comfortable as our soldiers were wont to be, during the war, in transports.

But what the condition has been of the wretched beings exported from the coast of Africa since the Abolition Act came into force—or, more correctly speaking, since it has been attempted to enforce that Act—we need not, here, attempt to describe. We have seen many, and sufficiently vivid, descriptions of the state of slave-ships, when captured by our cruisers; but we have seen none that have not fallen far, far short of the truth. It is, in fact, impossible to convey more than a very faint idea of the actual horrors that exist on board of a slaver of the present day. It has been our fortune frequently to witness them, and we can only say that they are indeed such as to make humanity shudder. In short, from long observation of, and intimate acquaintance with, the slave-trade, as carried on of late years, we have no hesitation in asserting, *that the sum of human misery occasioned by that traffic during the thirty years that have elapsed since it was declared illegal, has been far greater than that caused by it during the three centuries wherein it was carried on under the sanction and protection of the laws.*

"But perhaps" (it may be said) "although the horrors attending the slave-trade have been thus dreadfully aggravated in consequence of the Abolition Act, the trade itself has been diminished—the number of human beings subjected to this misery has been decreased—and we may eventually, though gradually, effect its entire abolition by increased means and increased activity." So far is this from being the case, that the number of negroes exported, and the number of vessels employed in the trade, have actually *increased*; and we assert, further, that, under the present system, that increase will go on. That we are not speaking without good grounds, will appear from the boarding-books of H.M. cruisers on the West African station for the last ten, but more especially for the last five, years. The same fact can be proved from the number of slavers which have, during the same period of time, visited

the European settlements on the Gold Coast, on their way to the slave-factories in the bights of Benin and Biafra.

One of the causes of the great increase of slaves exported during the last four or five years was, doubtless, temporary; the great mortality, namely, among the slave population in Cuba and the Brazils, occasioned by the cholera in 1833. But we think it indisputable that the increased demand, and consequently increased value given, for slaves imported into Cuba, Brazil, Mexico, and the slave-holding states in America, have been mainly occasioned by the emancipation of the slaves in the British colonies; and we may safely venture to predict, that, when, in 1840, that emancipation shall have become complete and unconditional, the exportation of slaves from the coast of Africa will be very materially increased; always, of course, supposing the means hitherto employed for its prevention to continue the same.

If this view of the subject be correct—and no one, we apprehend, who has carefully observed and studied it, will deny its correctness—does it not become an object of great and paramount importance, does it not become a bounden duty on the part of this country, to adopt some means whereby so great an evil may be prevented? With this view it is, that we now proceed to inquire what means have been used to carry the Abolition Act into effect on the Gold Coast, and how far those means have been successful. The utter futility of the means hitherto adopted to prevent the exportation of slaves from other parts of the coast is notorious, and even the most sanguine must have lost their faith in a system which has so signally failed, after having been perseveringly tried for the long space of thirty years. Let us now see what have been the results of a very different system, as practised on the Gold Coast.

We have already stated—but it cannot be too often repeated, or too carefully borne in mind—that the European settlements on the coast of Guinea had long been the great and principal emporium of the slave-trade, that it had grown with their growth, and strengthened with their strength. The difficulties, therefore, to be encountered, and the obstacles to be overcome, in attempting to extirpate this trade from a country where it had been so long planted, and where it had so firmly taken root, must necessarily have been greater, we may presume, than in any other portion of Africa. Not only were the prejudices of the people to be overcome, and a radical change effected in their condition and habits, but it became absolutely necessary that some means should be found—some species of wealth created—in exchange for which they should be furnished with their accustomed supplies of those articles of foreign manufacture and produce, which long habit had rendered, to them, necessities of life. So entire, so thorough a revolution, both moral and physical, in the habits of a whole people, was, obviously, not to be effected in a day. It is most gratifying to us, however, to be enabled to state, that this great revolution *has* been effected; that, from Cape Appollonia to Accra, not a single slave has been exported since the year 1830. Has this great object been brought about by the agency of those means which have been employed to extirpate the slave-trade, so unsuccessfully, on other parts of the coast? No. H.M. cruisers have, certainly, been in the habit of visiting the settlements, but only for the purpose of pro-

curing supplies, and of affording, if called upon, aid and assistance to the local authorities. No cruiser has ever, at least for many years, been stationed off the Gold Coast, for the purpose of intercepting slavers. May not this fact be taken as another, though a negative, proof of the inefficiency of a blockading squadron for the prevention of the slave-trade? We can, ourselves, bear testimony to the activity; the zeal, the devotedness, with which, for the last ten years, at least, the several Commanders of H. M. cruisers on that station have performed the repulsive, irksome, and, in such a climate, dangerous service in which they have been engaged; and that their efforts have proved abortive is certainly not to be ascribed to any fault in that quarter, but to the mal-adaptation of the means to the end.

The measures adopted—or, more properly speaking, the course of circumstances, whereby the natives of the Gold Coast were weaned from their favourite traffic, and which has already almost rendered the slave-trade a matter of history among them—have ever been those, by which alone, in our opinion, the same great object will ever be attained on other parts of the coast.

It cannot be too often, or too forcibly, impressed upon the Government and people of England, that they stand alone in this matter. The other European Governments, who are possessed of colonies worked by slave-labour, have, doubtless, accorded their assent to the general principle of abolition, and have, from time to time, made various concessions which were deemed essential to the working out of that principle; but this acquiescence in the views and measures of the British Government has, in most instances, been wrung from them with difficulty, and, in no instance, have they proved their sincerity by cordial and actual co-operation with England. Thus have we not only had to contend against the prejudices, habits, and interests of the natives of Africa themselves, as well as those of the West India colonists, but against the apathy, if not the secret opposition, of most of the European Powers. In short, the small minority in Europe, who have so long laboured, and are still labouring, to suppress the slave-trade, from motives of pure philanthropy, have been, and will be, unable to contend with the vast majority, whose interests would be damnified—or, which is the same thing, who conceive that their interests would be damnified—by its total suppression. Take the world at large, and worldly interests will generally prove too strong for those of abstract philanthropy: but prove to the Governments of Spain and Portugal—make it apparent to the merchants and planters of Cuba and Bahia—that the suppression of the slave-trade is perfectly reconcilable with the protection of their interests—that it will impose upon them *no permanent pecuniary sacrifice*—and in a few years that detestable traffic will have ceased to exist.

This principle it was, by the application of which on the Gold Coast, the slave-trade was gradually banished from that part of Africa. The mere prohibition, by the local authorities, of that trade could never, of itself, have been sufficient to prevent it, along so extensive a line of coast, and, in point of fact, cargoes of slaves continued occasionally to be shipped off from districts forming part of our settlements for many years subsequent to the passing of the Abolition Act, although the means placed at the disposal of the local government of those days

exceeded nearly tenfold the very inadequate means now allotted for the same purpose. But when the native traders found that the resident merchants refused to purchase their living merchandise—that they were obliged to take them to a remote part of the coast, and there wait for the uncertain appearance of a slave-vessel—that even there the disposal of them was attended with trouble, delay, and risk, besides rendering themselves amenable to punishment if discovered by the authorities—they began to discover that legitimate commerce, even although attended with more labour, and less profitable, might be equally beneficial, and certainly was safer. The European merchants, moreover, deprived of their accustomed traffic, exerted every means in their power, and afforded every encouragement, to induce their usual customers to abandon their former trade; and to bring from the interior gold, ivory, and other articles of produce, instead of slaves. The chiefs and others in the interior, finding the market for slaves upon the coast becoming every day more precarious and contracted, and that their usual supplies of European and colonial merchandise were only to be procured in exchange for gold and ivory, gradually found themselves under the necessity of employing their slaves in procuring increased supplies of those articles, instead of selling the slaves themselves. Gradually, too—as necessity is the mother of invention—other natural sources of wealth began to be developed. Palm-oil, previously almost unknown in Europe, was discovered to be an excellent substitute for tallow, and, speedily becoming an article of commerce, was taken in exchange for European commodities as readily as gold itself. Indian corn, or maize—an article of produce to which, during the prevalence of the slave-trade, so little attention was paid that during bad seasons the country was frequently visited by famine—Indian corn, also, has of late years been so extensively cultivated, that quantities are annually exported to the island of Madeira (which is now almost entirely supplied from the Gold Coast), and even to England. Guinea-grains, too, as well as red and green peppers, have become valuable articles of the export trade of the settlements.

Thus has a new and legitimate commerce been created and substituted for that detestable traffic, by means of which alone, in former times, a large portion of the Soudan was supplied with European manufactures and other articles of foreign produce. This amazing change, too, was gradually brought about during a period when the settlements were placed in circumstances of the greatest difficulty and danger. From 1807, up to the period of the abolition of the African Company's charter, the entire country may be said to have been perpetually subject to the irruptions, exactions, and oppressions of the Ashantees, whose power in those days was so great that the European forts could afford but little protection against it even to the towns and villages situated immediately under their guns. Then followed the Ashantee war, which necessarily threw the whole country into confusion and anarchy, and deprived it of that security of person and property without which neither industry nor commerce can exist. At length, by the persevering exertions of the local authorities, peace was concluded with Ashantee, whereby our communications with the interior were again opened up, and our commercial intercourse with it renewed. Then it was that the Government exerted itself to restore—or, more cor-

rectly speaking, to create peace and order throughout the country, without which no advantage could have been derived from our renewed friendly relations with *Ashantee*; and to take such steps as would render it impossible for the natives to revert to the favourite, and not yet entirely extirpated, slave-trade. But the home Government had at this period (unwisely, we think—certainly most unfortunately for the country) withdrawn so large a portion of the support that had always theretofore been granted to the settlements, that the efforts of the local authorities were cramped, and their measures more partial and limited than the circumstances of the country demanded. Yet, crippled as their resources were, much has been effected: the slave-trade has been completely suppressed along an extensive line of coast, and has been replaced by a valuable legitimate commerce, which has kept increasing from year to year. Were her Majesty's Government to grant extended means, we can confidently assert that this country would reap a rich reward in a commerce, the extent and value of which it would be difficult to over-estimate. We speak not of the large debt of justice which England owes to the native population of the Gold Coast—of her bounden duty to repair in some measure, even at a sacrifice, the cruel injuries inflicted on them and their forefathers by the slave-trade—but we affirm that it is the *interest* of England to extend her influence, and to carry civilization as far as possible, into a country so rich in natural resources as this portion of Africa.

From what we have already stated, the following inferences may, we think, be fairly, if not obviously, drawn:—

First, that the means hitherto adopted—the employment, namely, of a naval force—for the suppression of the slave-trade, generally, have proved utterly futile. Secondly, that on the Gold Coast—comprising a long line of sea-coast—where the slave-trade had been practised for centuries, and where it had more firmly taken root than in any other portion of Africa, another description of means *has* proved completely effectual for the abolition of that traffic. Thirdly, that this great object has been successfully accomplished at an expense utterly insignificant when compared with that which is required for the maintenance of even a single cruiser—which expense, moreover, has been repaid a thousand-fold by the legitimate commerce which has been called into existence. Fourthly, that not only has the slave-trade been suppressed on the Gold Coast, but a valuable legitimate commerce substituted in its stead. Fifthly, that as legitimate commerce is the most effectual means of civilization, a great moral good will be thereby effected.

If these inferences are correct—and they are, we think, undeniable—may we not, from them, still further infer, that the means which have been so successfully employed on one portion of the coast of Africa, in annihilating the slave-trade, would be equally successful elsewhere? By no other means, in our opinion, will the slave-trade ever be suppressed, so long as the demand for slaves in the New World continues. We must make it the *interest* of the natives of Africa to retain their population at home; and this can only be done by the creation of a legitimate commerce.

DIARY OF A RUN TO THE NORTH COAST OF FRANCE.*

WE were nearly all day getting to Vire, a very neat pretty town. I walked out, while they changed horses, to the promenade of the *Château*, a ruin hanging over a deep valley which half surrounds the town. The view from under the trees here is beautiful. There was something very attractive in this romantic spot at the back of the town; so much so, that I had to run for it to catch the diligence; which, though it came up the chief street, yet was obliged to turn short round and go back the way we came, the road striking off at a right angle, in consequence of the town being on a high ridge in the midst of these hills.

As this is not far from the coast, I was surprised to hear that there is but a single English person living here—a lady, who has been in France so long, that she must be French by this time.

The brightest moonlight is very deceiving as to objects passed on the road, or the country at a distance. Colours are gone: one sees things, indeed, but not as they really are. In this way, though the heights of Avranches were plain enough before us, yet the long, low, muddy road to it seemed interminable, till we began to ascend the hill by which the road winds up to it. Nor was there any harm getting to it at night; for at first sight Avranches is a miserable looking place. It improves, however, on acquaintance, or one's wonder would be great at so many English having selected it as a residence: fewer now to be sure than ten years ago: at this moment there are said to be about two hundred, mostly poor families.

If, however, the town itself is no great things, the country round is very rich; and the view across towards Granville, and to seaward, including that singular rock Mount St. Michel, is very fine.

I looked about the town with some curiosity after certain outward signs of the congregation of several hundreds of us English for so many years in so small a market-town; but except a few houses, a little neatish, on the road to Dol, and a few more on the *Boulevard de l'Est*, where they are building (as if they had just thought of it), I could trace no signs of our whereabouts. In truth, we make little impression on the French: our extra francs are all very well, and we are tolerated, perhaps coveted slyly to occupy their spare floors, or spare houses; but beyond this we are not felt. A man might drive a garden chair and pony or pair about for ever, and not find an imitator. So do they look on our nice convenient or neat contrivances of all sorts with the most *nonchalant* shrug—possibly adding, "*ce st assez bien*," or "*ce st drole*."

There are just two hotels in the town—the greatest is the *Hôtel de France*—with very much the air of a great barn; and here I was fain to put up with a little dirty hole of a room, with the papering hanging down on all sides, garnished with cobwebs. The entrance to this wing (facing on the barn-yard) was through a sort of coal-hole, or stow-hole of all sorts of dirty litter and lumber, the rest of the house, in neatness and comfort, being much on a par; and yet here they boast of lodging all the English Johnny Newcomes for this last quarter of a century—no inconsiderable number. With such a landlord and landlady things are

not likely to improve; and yet this house has great capabilities—excellent rooms of all sorts. A little paste and paint, a scrubbing brush and soap, and a gallon of white-wash, and the whole might be metamorphosed into an excellent house in two or three hours. It would have done them good, and every body else, to have flogged Monsieur and Madame into it. Eloquence, I am persuaded, would be totally lost on them, though incessant, for the term of their natural lives. Neither could it in an angel, abate a franc of their extortion: a cat would be the best argument. I have no patience with such animals.

As a sample of their extortion—their impudence—here is a place renowned for its cheap supply of fish of all descriptions, and almost at all times. Knowing this, I ventured to beg Madame to let me have one or two for breakfast. • Herrings were in season, and in cart-loads—I would rather have had any other fish to be sure, but no matter, a couple of the tiniest I ever beheld were placed before me. By computation these herrings must have been bought at a very small fraction of a farthing, and they figured in my bill at a franc extra! This, at Avranches, on the western confines of Normandy! I am more and more convinced, that of all impudent impositions, at hotels, the French are the coolest and most unconscionable. People may contend for the palm to the Italians—I doubt it.

Rambling about the town, which is very small (perhaps a population of 5000), in the Rue Dame—I came across the encouraging sign-board of a small preparatory school. It was impossible to pass and not read the recommendation at the foot of the board:—

“ Ad normas studii sapiens accurre juvena,
Nobis infertur conscia luce fides.”

There is much, in a particular spot, to give a fortuitous value to a few words. In my eyes they not only made the poor master's domicile, albeit very modest, look more respectable, but it raised the whole street in my estimation: look the little ones flock to him! By the way, there is a large grammar-school, or *lycée*, on the north side of the town; of two or three hundred boys, who have the range of a botanical garden close to them on the slope of the hill overlooking the river and bay. This is their academic grove, where they lounge in groups under the trees at least, if they don't trouble themselves about plants much; but even walking thus among them at last begets a taste that way. A happy combination—such an indulgence, I am afraid, could not be given to our boys; they would soon make a fine garden of it; here not a thing is touched or hurt. There are few or no exotics, and the only flowers dahlias. The botanic professor keeps a nursery opposite, killing two small birds with one stone; not but that his public garden is kept in very good order, so that the implied economy of the thing speaks in its favour. An intelligent old man I recollected to have spoken to yesterday in the *Evêché* (a public enclosure within the walls of the once bishop's palace) I now found to be the floral professor's assistant, at work on one of the borders. The “*Bon jour*,” *oblige*, followed as we mutually touched our hats, on which I said a few civil words on the good order of the garden, in return for his telling me that a fine statue I was looking at the day before was presented to the town by the Emperor. It is colossal, of one of those able soldiers who sprung up during the last war, and were cut down in early life: this

was the General Valhubert, a townsman, killed at the Battle of Austerlitz; he is supposed to have just been hit, and is supporting himself on his sword. Here is an example of an able artist's retaining our modern costume, and at the same time all the grace of an antique statue, by the management of the folds of his cloak, which is ably and unaffectedly draped round the lower part of the figure. Every part of this fine statue is noble, and in perfect keeping with the affecting moment of his fall.

16th October.—I have been reading (until driven from the table by the stupid *gargon* laying the plates of half-a-dozen *commis voyageur* yahoos all round me, with no light to read by elsewhere) Scribe's last comedy, "La Camaraderie," ou "La Courte Echelle." It is capital. In wit and fun it comes very near our School for Scandal; giving one an excellent idea of the literary cabals of Paris, with their contrivances, together with all kinds of *médiocrités*, bustling botheries, to push each other into place, or at least reputation—a sort of mutual assurance-of-celebrity-society—jolly dogs, boon companions, puffing each other right and left, just as we have it in our own world of letters—and the good things going at Court and about town. Scribe's *dramatis personæ* consists of a cunning knave of a doctor, a small poet, a fustian editor, a heavy painter, a vulgar rich publisher, a stupid peer, and a frothy sentimentalising novelist. By way of sauce to this fry, there is a good-natured fool of a young fellow who has more good sense than all the rest put together (without, however, being overburdened himself). Their great word among each other (aided by good cheer, as the cement that sticks them together) is "push me, I'll push thee."

Thus this band of blockheads contrive, by hook or crook, to make each other of consequence by simply banishing all jealousy among themselves and exalting each other to the skies! Thus the publisher prints likenesses of this illustrious band, puffs their scribblings, and pockets the sale of both; the poet praises the prose writer, who, in turn, bedaubes the rhymers, and writes up the painter in his paper; while the doctor, already brought into fashionable practice and a professor's chair by the clique, runs about magnifying the sublime genius of his dear friends. The whole play is full of truth, wit, and humour: it has had a great run at the Theatre Français, amidst the hearty laughter of crowds, where, generally speaking, they do not often laugh.

The woman of the library where I got the play (the only stationer in the place) told me the town was too poor, with all the help of the English, to support a circulating library. This was the only book she lent out, and at five sous an hour, as nobody would buy it at five francs, she said; so that she made it an exception, to get back her money—for such an unheard-of extravagance as 4s. for a five-act play!

What would she have said to some of our dull modern perpetrations in five acts at five shillings? Her plan was not a bad one—by the hour! Our libraries should adopt it, as the only means of getting books one inquires for "not yet returned" by their lazy subscribers.

17th.—I tried to make my way through the dense crowd of the market this morning; it was hard work; but a French crowd is never a troublesome or a wicked one—no picking pockets, no fighting, but there's shoving enough *sans cérémonie*. I never saw such immense lumps of fresh butter (which they weigh, as well as other things, at public scales at fixed stations of the market). Fowls, geese, ducks,

eggs, salt fish, vegetables, and fruit in loads. This is the sterling attraction to us emigrant English, here or elsewhere—the grand essential: we must go on eating, whatever else we do, or don't do; children, too, must be fed: patriotism, or taste, nay, comfort itself, all sink into insignificance compared with this; they do well enough to talk of. So that the mere town itself is a matter of mere moonshine—whether pretty or ugly, whether gay, intellectual, and amusing, or a boorish hole, presided over by the *Hôtel de France*. The country it is that is good; all necessities in abundance: in its appearance here, and all along, it puts me constantly in mind of home; thickly wooded, orchards, hedges, prettily undulated and well cultivated: the farm-houses, too, are more thickly sprinkled over the whole; the peasantry well dressed, with a saucy independence about them very refreshing.

I think to-day I have seen two Englishmen taking a sort of quarter-deck turn together on the *Place* opposite the hotel—men looking like anxious fathers of families, and dressed in the French way; there was, too, a countrywoman at the library, who Madame told me painted portraits: these, and three smiling little faces at a window, were all I could say I saw of the English part of the town.

As I have observed, my hotel was not particularly enticing or comfortable. Thrice had I promenaded the Botanic Garden for its fine view—so it was time to be off. I was obliged to take coach at the rival tavern up the High Street. There is no regular coach on to St. Malo, only a kind of “correspondence,” as they call their villanous contrivances. Luckily the roads are very good; and away we went westward, leaving Normandy at *Pont Orson* twelve miles on, where a muddy little tide river crosses the road; the sea-shore not far off in sight, on the right; everywhere the sands running out at low water for miles—I think they say, at Mont St. Michel, as much as three leagues! so flat is the beach. By the way, the Rock of St. Michel has a castle and village on it: state-prisoners are sometimes lodged there; there are none just now. It looks close beneath Avranches, and yet it is ten or twelve miles by the road to it, which decided me not to go, as I have no great curiosity for sight seeing; my share of it from the Botanic Garden sufficed.

We were transferred to the Rhennes diligence at Dol, in Brittany; an ugly old town, with a fine old church of one tower, the other never finished. How many churches are in the same plight on the continent! There was a sort of fair—Rag-fair, for never did I see such an assemblage of frippery, including old iron. I asked for buckwheat cakes at a *cabaret* next the coach-office, where we had to wait an hour. The *Bonne* “*Mon Dieu'd*,” and said they had just eaten the last; but if I could wait—? They make *mush* in this part of the world, too, of the meal of Indian corn, the Polenta of Italy. I went fairing, and got some gingerbread; but French gingerbread is deceitful gingerbread, it has no ginger in it: it would be too spicy. I often wonder how French grocers came to be called *épiciers*. Words and their original meaning are often strangely at variance. Thus we will have “*feu de joie*” (bonfire) to mean the firing a salute, the French “*salve*,” and *déshabillé* for *en négligée*, &c. This affectation of French terms, upside down, is as bad (rather more absurd) as their blunders with our language.

There was an intelligent English gentlewoman in the *coupe*, travelling quite alone to St. Servans, where she told me she had lived some years, in the midst of quite a colony of English, who prefer it to the town of St. Malo itself, separated only by the harbour from it. She had been to England on business, and was returning home! I look on all such exiles with a sort of foolish wonder. This lady, a person of education and property, in the wane of life, speaking very little French badly, dressed very singularly, thoroughly English in her ways of thinking—what can she find at St. Servans? Well, never mind; but thus, unfortunately, moneyed people go and confer its benefit on France, taking it from England. In the same way our emigrants to the United States, of the working classes, are all the *best* of our working people—small farmers, and the most sober and careful of our day-labourers and their wives and children. We need not mind the thinning of our population, but it is the manner of it that is by degrees leaving us a land of a few rich, and a great many beggars. The scum of our lower classes, unhappily, cannot get away from England, until transported! So in France, Belgium, and Italy, we meet with none but *fixed income* persons, the very ones that encourage industry, increase markets; in short, who do the most good where they sit down.

Not far from Dol we got out fairly on the beach, the road sweeping round a bay fringed with windmills all in full fly, knocking their arms about close on the road; so close, that I am sure no horse not used to it could be got by safely. Our little strong nags trotted on, and never minded. St. Malo is approached along a narrow sandy isthmus. As we entered the only land gate, several groups of fine English girls passed us, walking round (the tide being in) from the town to St. Servans. I longed to speak to those dear fair exiles, as something like a groan escaped me—and yet, why? English girls take to France as naturally as pigs do squeak.

St. Malo is a singular town. It has something the air of being cut out of the rock where it stands, its walls, streets, and all—not a spare inch of land—the immense solid stone houses, five and six stories high, peeping over the ramparts; running close to them all round.

The houses are immense; notwithstanding, their upper stories have hard work to look over the sea and land, and get a little air and sunshine, and yet the place is not such a *dirty hole* as I have heard it described. However, daylight is certainly at a premium in all the streets not facing the ramparts, from the great height of the buildings and narrowness of the streets. Some of them put you in mind of walking in the bottom of a well. I have no doubt very pleasant and cool in hot summers, and certainly very well sheltered from storms in winter. This whole fort and town is only a square of about six hundred yards. It is garrisoned, and the only land gate is shut very strictly at night. A second gate opens on the harbour, by which people can pass round at low water, and where they cross in passage-boats when the tide is in, backwards and forwards to the suburb of St. Servans. There are two other gates opening on the foot of the rock to seaward, one on a small island connected at low water, where M. de Chateaubriand (this is his native town) is having his mausoleum excavated within a fort on it. About this time he wrote to the papers, to say it was not true that he had come from Paris himself to superintend this monument,

being engaged on a more melancholy task, attending the sick bed-side of his wife; if more melancholy it may be called, than a man's digging his own grave, whatever vanity might have been mixed up with it by implication.

The tides rise here forty-two feet, lashing the outer walls of the town furiously (I see a date on them of 1656). It enters the gateways, so that there remains but one practicable on the causeway. I think this harbour is remarkable, as the cleanest I ever saw. On the tides receding, a string of people are directly seen on the sands crossing to St. Servans, threading their way through the shipping high and dry, close to the landing. The distance straight across may be rather more than half a mile, all a fine dry hard sand, and no offensive smells from the usual slime and sea-weed, &c., except, perhaps, close under the eastern towers. They are, just now, running out piers from both sides of the harbour, further to narrow and protect the entrance, together with a basin, nearly finished, on the St. Servans side. It would appear that St. Servans has sprung up out of the country residences (now forming a town) of the richer merchants of St. Malo, who have, since the Peace, let them to the thick-coming English, contenting themselves with their old town-houses; few or no English, except those travelling, staying in St. Malo. These people made fortunes: some of them during the war by their privateers. Often they were taken, but often escaped us by their fast sailing, and the dangerous intricacies of this iron-bound coast. Once among these frowning ledges of rocks in the offing, and our cruisers were obliged to haul off.

There are two rival hotels here. The *Hôtel d'Angleterre*, I think, has an English mistress; but some of us were induced to follow pretty Mademoiselle Michelle to the *Hôtel Franklin*, jammed up in a close corner of the *Rue Petit Judas*. Here we found ourselves in a darkness visible; but there is a good *table d'hôte*, and the house is carefully kept by very obliging, civil people. M. le Blanc is, besides, a *pâtissier* and "*daubeur*," a term in the art of cookery I see for the first time.

All through this country you are invited, as you step out of the diligence, to the different hotels by the maid-servants. On this occasion, there was no resisting the large black eyes of Mademoiselle Michelle against the pretensions of more importunate rivals for our custom. There was an air of coquetterie, with a certain *insouciance*, that took me prisoner at once to the Franklin Hotel in Little Judas Street, where I found she had an equally handsome elder sister, both acting as waiters at table; where, indeed, they seemed sufficiently tormented by the coarse assiduities of two or three young French officers, and as many *commis voyageurs*, if possible, a more impertinent class of travellers, who are found the constant stock in hand of all the *tables d'hôte*,—a set much on a par with our travellers for shops, only an infinite deal more ignorant and presuming, always great politicians on the Utopian side, talking a great deal in a dogmatical strain, and understanding nothing, hardly their own mother-tongue; but in this they have a wonderful victory over any unhappy Englishman who ventures to speak. French politeness is proverbial in general intercourse, but it cannot be fairly so understood with the people of this stamp met at hotel tables; on the contrary: at our first dinner we were all English on one side of the table, drawn up in battle array against all French on the other. Not a word

crossed the table, and one or two attempts on our parts to make the conversation general was met by a short answer or silence. This might possibly be mere accident; so it was, I dare say; but the manner was equally repulsive, as if they took offence previously at our talking English to each other. The French, who from conceit and idleness, never attempt to learn our tongue, for which they affect a supreme contempt, yet are very sensitive if we converse together in English on such occasions. There is a kind of tyranny in this particular, even in the best French society; it is expected that we are to go on hammering at bad French for their advantage—perhaps not for their amusement, and no thanks to them; for a bad pronunciation or bad grammar does not tickle them as it does us; it only produces mistake and confusion, of which they take a sly advantage. I wish, with all my heart, our people would not be so fond of giving it to them, particularly our women. There was one at table to-day, who must needs make her execrable French particularly conspicuous. I longed to stop her mouth with a potato—it is so humiliating.

18th.—In tolerably calm weather the ramparts here are a pleasant promenade all round the town. I have been exploring the gloomy streets—admiring the excellence of the houses—their magnificence, indeed, in size and strength—and wondering how it has happened in a little village-like sea port! The key to this enigma is, no doubt, trade and privateers in long wars. There is still some little trade—two or three sail even to India, a few small craft building over on the St. Servans side, with from thirty to forty sail in harbour, chiefly coasting. The greatest activity seems in timber everywhere, even on our own shores. There is a theatre here at the corner of a small square, almost the only breathing place to be found: here they are building a new town-hall. There is, too, a spirited statue of the old school of, I think, Jean Bart, who is a great favourite in all French sea-ports.

Though there is not a vestige left of the beautiful fast-sailing vessels built and fitted out here during the war, yet they have still the name of good builders, and lately sent round two handsome sloops-of-war to Brest.

They have one small French steam-boat running to and from Dinan, up the river, the mouth of which opens across the bay without the harbour's mouth, near the small town and *pays* of Dinars—a spot, by the way, renowned for its extraordinary women's caps, *à la coq*. Michelle and her sister are very proud of these ugly, odd-shaped things. Amidst all the varieties of the provincial women's caps this is surely the most curious; such an elaborate contrivance—quite indescribable—except that it is something like a cock's comb. Then, again, the cap of St. Malo, and the country hereabouts, is of another indescribable, flattish folding of muslin. No wonder the Dinars' girls carry their heads so high. I talked to Michelle about her's; she said it did not signify, she should never leave it off—no, not for the finest satin or Leghorn bonnet—no, not to be a *grande dame*. French girls are certainly very excellent philosophers, and, like the best male ones, will reason most unreasonably. Still, I must confess, her reasons were better than mine, for I certainly had no good reason for not liking her cap.

The Franklin, though a pretty good hotel for a French one, yet is no exception to the rest all through this country: not a paper to be had—

no pen and ink—no place to sit down in except the constant *salle à manger*, where Michelle and her sister were as constantly employed in the takings away or preparations for the different sets of feeding animals; so I hunted for a *café*, the best close by, a very poor affair; with a paper to be sure, but of a week old, and having been worn out by the *habitudes*: the coffee, coloured water. It is a mistake to suppose the French make better coffee than ourselves; out of Paris they do not. I find they drink tea a great deal at all the *cafés*; such stuff! not but that they have good tea enough, but they only put a pinch or teaspoon-full in the pot, with warm water—boiling water is by no means strictly essential with French ideas of tea drinking; but they are extremely particular in having a little silver strainer dangling at the end of the spout, a refinement, they think, on our plain pouring, that settles the question of supremacy.

I amused myself on the sands of the harbour this evening watching the string of passengers across to and from St. Servans, and the hurry of the lag-lasts to save their tide. It rushes in so suddenly up a certain narrow channel, where there is a sort of little stone causeway across to step on, that they had to run for it: a group of English ladies only saved their distance and shoes by a step; and a good many behind, French girls and boys, were fain to take off their shoes and stockings, taking each other's hands in Indian file, so as not to miss the footing over the stones as the water poured over; each side they would have been up to their waists. This deceitful approach of the tide always takes one by surprise; it creeps along so still, so slow, and quiet apparently, in the distance, and on its first turn. I was lucky to escape the rain which they complain of all along this rocky coast. They say it rains as much at Brest, for instance, as at Plymouth; which is, I dare say, very near the truth, from exactly the same causes; but, in addition, they accuse Brest of being unhealthy.

There is an opposition diligence from this, direct to Dinan, going westward (the regular one goes back first to Dol). This cross-road speculation is, like all the others I have by misfortune got into, a most unmerciful crib, in which you are cramped up, with no sort of regard to any admitted proportions of the human body. Such horses! such endless stoppages! such rattle-trap make-shifts and contrivances! but it was a fine day, and over a fine country; we drove round, and remained an hour lingering about St. Servans, which consists, by the way, of one long, ugly street, and a few dirty alleys next the water; with the rest made up of houses in their own gardens, spread in a good wide semicircle, and looking tolerably neat and well,—all, of course, inhabited by English. They have, too, a circulating library, and an English hotel, the outside of which did not look to me extremely inviting.

Jogging along very quietly, thinking of nothing at all, I was startled, five miles on, by a sentinel on the road side at the gate, leading in, I found, to a fort and powder magazines.

A detachment do duty here from St. Malo. I couldn't help thinking—"now, what can they want with a fort in such a spot as this?—what for?" Why, they have their good reasons, of course, plenty as blackberries. I might have cried, "pish!" but let it be known I was nearly crushed in the *coupé* between a great fat woman and a plump *curé*, who took snuff immoderately. Mem., all French clergymen snuff. My eyes were in danger from the close propinquity of each scattering flourish; I

only saved them by turning to a broken pane of glass whenever the box made its appearance. How little do we know what is for our good in this world! This very broken pane I had grumbled at at starting, as it let in the keen morning air; but the diligence people knew what was good for me, which I was candid enough to be sensible of very quickly.

With a good share of up and down hill we got to Dinan by eleven o'clock; that is, in five hours; I think about fifteen miles; crossing the river over a bridge, and up a very long, steep hill into the town, which is charmingly placed over the river, with a noble view on all sides—particularly towards St. Malo.

I don't wonder at this being a favourite place of the English—there are four hundred here. Going on, a Frenchman (who writes the *Dinan Gazette*, a most superabundantly clever fellow into the bargain, and a lawyer besides), to give me an idea of the advance in the place since the English residence, said, that at the Peace there was just one piano to be heard at Dinan, and now the "*Demoiselles Anglaises ont sixty.*" He informed me, besides, that he was an amateur on the violin, and in great request amidst the said young ladies to accompany them on the piano. Before I was aware of all this, as we passed up to the *Hôtel de la Poste*, I had observed a group of well-dressed English girls, escorted by two *beaux* sitting on the step of a house in the street, opposite a most picturesque gaol—the tower of some grand ruined *château* in days of yore.

I longed to speak to this party—as if no other than isolated exiles in this out-o'-the-way spot. It was only in my imagination, forgetting that steam-boats twice a-week ply between Jersey and St. Malo, and thence here in two or three hours; so that in two days, any fine lady shopping in her carriage at Howell and James's, with all her chickens feminine about her; or let us say of a June Tuesday in Kensington Gardens, or a Zoological Sunday,—may be, if she pleases, sitting on these very steps, or safely lodged *chez M. le Roy, fils of the Poste*, on the *Place* at Dinan, enjoying very good coffee, and bread and butter, at that identical inn. I mention it gratefully, for though the coffee was good (so very extraordinary!) the landlady only asked the moderate sum of ten *sous*.

I pray she may never get acquainted with her sister hostess of the *Avranches* tavern; it would be a pity.

The usual two hours' halt and change of coaches here turned out well; the day being lovely, I struck across the square, and by the church found out a nice *promenade* on the hanging terrace, from whence I had a most superb view of the river winding among its steep hills, and a fine country far as the eye can reach, together with the romantic suburbs of the town itself. This is the prettiest place I have seen: the tide comes up only to the bridge; above which the river is a small but limpid stream. It was evident enough the presence of some foreign impetus here,—in the new houses building over the river banks, and the neat order of the garden houses scattered about.

A little way on out of the town we came to an English windmill, with the small extra-turning fly-wheel above, on our most improved models; close to which my eyesight was further regaled by a *villa* being built quite *à l'Anglaise*, with bowed wings, bay-windows, &c. I was told this was a Monsieur, bit by *Anglomania*—a sensible fellow! but I must not be too sure of this *rara avis*; there were certain queer

imaginative upper story stuck on the wings of his house that struck me as very French (certainly not English), that spoiled the compact simplicity of his first-floor,—an improvement *selon Monsieur sans doute*. At this spot several of my countrymen and women passed us, walking into town, from their residence close to the mill; a very ordinary-looking farm-house, of twin-doors, that would not be put up with in England by people living on their incomes, however small. But this very cheap country is not to be withstood by half-pay officers with families, who form the bulk of those here: 120*l.* a-year (or 3000 *f.*) is thought a very respectable competence: on this, the lawyer assured me, they gave very *charmante soirées*; and so they may, since nothing is expected on such occasions beyond tea, a *baba* and *echaudées*, and a little wine and water, or *eau sucrée*. On this footing society is not the serious affair it unfortunately is among ourselves, even in remote country places, where people give each other ostentatious feeds, and do contrive to live very nearly, if not quite as expensively as in London!

This is a romantic country—full of ruins of castles, once stern and tyrannical enough.

We have been the whole day and a little of the night getting to St. Brieuc, crossing several bands of heath—an uncommon thing—and some very steep hills by Jugon, a wild pretty place, with its sheets of water, dilapidated town, rocks, and old castle; and Lamballe, a poor town with a handsome church, from whence that beautiful and unhappy princess took her title; but this fact threw a kind of interest round it. I looked about for her once *château*,—not that she may ever have been here during her whole short and unhappy life!

(To be continued.)

NARRATIVE OF THE EXPEDITION TO COORG IN 1834.

PART IV.

WESTERN AUXILIARY FORCE—LIEUT.-COL. JACKSON.

As the night of the 3rd drew near the enemy in increasing numbers closed on the body under command of Lieut.-Colonel Jackson, which had been rather dispirited by the events of the day. From the attitude assumed by the Coorgs it became absolutely necessary to send out strong piquets, to maintain a circle of sentries around the camp, and to make every preparation for a night attack. The tents were pitched; but the sick, wounded, and ammunition guard, were all that remained in camp to occupy them; the remainder watching for the expected approach of the enemy. The followers, none of whom had previously seen a shot fired, were dismayed at the loss inflicted on the reconnoitring party; and, fearing to be led still further into the deep jungle, availed themselves of the darkness of the night to escape from camp, and deserted in such numbers as to disorganise the commissariat, and to render it a matter of the greatest difficulty to collect sufficient carriage for the sick and wounded on the morning of the 4th—when, induced by the defi-

ciency of water in the position he occupied, and the assurance of the head man of the village of Padampolly that he would there obtain a sufficient number of coolies, the Lieut.-Colonel retreated on the Pagoda of Moodenoor, where there was a good and strong position near to that village. The road lay across dry rice-fields, and through jungle; but skirmishers were thrown out in sufficient numbers to deter the Coorgs from an attack. The information Colonel Jackson had received proved, however, false, the inhabitants abandoning the village at his approach,—and, so far from obtaining men to enable him to advance, a body of sixty, the remainder of the dooly-bearers attached to the 48th, deserted during the night of the 4th. The position occupied now had, however, one advantage—namely, that water could be obtained in plenty without fighting for it; but it was commanded at the distance of 200 or 300 yards by a wooded hill, from which the enemy kept up a fire of musketry on the camp during the night, without, however, any other effect than that of making the men sleep “*en position*” with their arms beside them, ready to repel an attack should it be attempted. Lieut.-Colonel Jackson might have killed some of his commissariat bullocks, which, with the rice he had, would have enabled him to maintain this ground for some time against a larger force than the Coorgs could at that moment have brought against him; but it was impossible to check desertion. Harsh measures to the followers would have closed the chance of procuring more; and it was possible that some of the younger Sepoys, perpetually fired on by the hidden Coorgs, and harassed with nightly watching to protect the camp, might have yielded to the temptation held out to them of throwing off their accoutrements and escaping into the jungle. With stockades in front and rear, and discontented Mapillays from Canara, attracted by the hope of plunder, joining the Coorgs, the force thus situated would, unless strongly supported, have been ultimately cut off to a man. It may be said that dependence might have been had on the assistance or success of the other forces; that they would succeed was more than probable—but that they would have sent support in time I much doubt: and the Coorgs proved by their conduct on the 5th and 6th that they were no longer under the control of their Rajah, and, if the stronger party, would have killed and plundered all they could. Their policy during their many previous wars, either with the low country chieftains to the westward, or with the Mysorians, was to allow them to enter the country with but little opposition, to lead them on with the appearance of conquest, to abandon a few old arms, and to retire to the strongest positions in the interior of their mountain hold—which, being nearly impregnable, exhausted the provisions and patience of their adversaries, who, on attempting to retire with the glory of having penetrated so far, found the stockades they had forced or turned so easily on their advance re-garrisoned with a more determined enemy on their retreat. Thus, checked in front, and harassed on the flanks and in the rear by an active enemy, who, secure in his knowledge of the jungle paths, laughed at their confusion, and spared neither sick nor wounded who might fall into his hands, the general result of a small force entering Coorg was its utter extinction—should it not have been attacked in scorn, and plundered and driven back on its first entrance into the country. The force under Lieut.-Colonel Jackson was too strong for the latter plan, independent of the chance of plunder

which the second gave, which was attempted, and very nearly with success.

On the 4th the Coorgs in front of Lieut.-Colonel Jackson received orders to suspend hostilities, as did their forces opposite to Colonels Stewart, Fowles, &c., who advanced further into the country unopposed: they were too strong for their antagonists, who left them; and, coming to increase the force employed against Jackson, kept back the white flag, and surrounded him in large numbers.

On the morning of the 5th he found that, owing to desertion of coolies and the death of many bullocks, means of carriage for the wounded, ammunition, &c., were wanting: to supply this, some of the officers cheerfully sacrificed part of their baggage or tents—for which, by the bye, some allowance ought to have been made them; and the force retired towards the village of Korica, distant about five miles. When about half-way there, and passing through a deep and difficult gorge, surrounded by hills and forests of inconceivable wildness, the advanced guard, which was led by the Lieut.-Colonel, with the guide, sustained a heavy fire from every part of the jungle.

The Brigade-Major, Captain M'Cleverty, H.M. 48th, here had his second horse killed, and a few casualties occurred; but the extreme pains the Coorgs had taken to mask their position, which at first prevented their being seen by our skirmishers, also led to the slight injury done by their fire, which only placed nine rank and file *hors de combat*. Whilst busy in repelling this attack, some of the Coorgs, taking advantage of the close cover and very confined nature of the road, slipped into the intervals unavoidably occurring in the line, and brutally massacred some of the sick, wounded, and followers. One or two Sepoys who were taken were tortured in the jungle, and made to call on their European officers for assistance previous to their being murdered; and the body of a man of the 48th was mutilated and thrown across the pathway. The ammunition and arrack bullocks, terrified at the noise thrown back from the hills bounding the ravine, threw off their loads and dashed wildly into the jungle, and the confusion for the moment was great. A bold attempt was made, on an open spot with a mud wall running across it, to cut off the rear-guard; but in this the Coorgs failed, losing between twenty and thirty men. They were also beaten off from the ammunition. Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson, having directed the officer in command to take up a position on an open hill a little beyond the ravine, and to half them to allow the rear to close up, advanced himself with a party into the jungle to drive out the Coorgs. Finding their ambuscade discovered, they retreated, and passed in large bodies round the foot of the hill we then occupied, to take up some other position in advance.

The labour of catching and re-loading the frightened cattle was great, the heat intense; and some of the Europeans, having stove in a cask of arrack, and seen the mangled body of their comrade, were half-maddened, and all thoughts of giving quarter to the enemy abandoned by them. Skirmishing continued all the way to Korica, where, entering some dry rice-fields close to the village, the force halted an hour, and then moved on to a fine open encamping-ground, which it had previously occupied on its advance from Goombla. The road was lined with the skirmishers of the enemy, who, hidden in bushes, or in the foliage of large trees

some distance in the thick jungle, fired at their leisure at the retreating party. The only obstacle of any importance between Koricca and the intended encamping-ground was a barrier about nine feet high, made of the trunks of trees wattled together, crossing the road, and extending to some distance on either flank : this the enemy were preparing to occupy in force. One 6-pounder howitzer would have knocked it about their ears in five minutes, but that the force had not ; so parties were detached to attack in reverse, which the enemy perceiving, abandoned the barrier, and the force, passing through a small opening which had been cut by the pioneers on the advance, reached its halting-ground a little before sunset, after a most harassing and fatiguing day.

Previous to marching this day a melancholy accident occurred. A young officer of the Company's Service, who had loaded his gun to snipe at the Coorgs, tripped over a tent-rope, and the gun, going off, wounded one of his own men in the leg, who, perhaps, in consequence, was one of those taken and murdered by the Coorgs in the course of the day. Lieutenant Johnson's death was entirely owing to his double-barrel ; and if officers do their duty properly when engaged, they will always find their hands full enough without taking the duty of the soldier.

The night of the 5th passed quietly. On the arrival of the advanced guard on the encamping-ground, a young bullock which had followed it for a short distance was shot (of course, quite accidentally), and proved a great addition to the breakfast of the morning of the 6th, which was the 3rd day the troops received nothing but a couple of mouldy biscuits per man, having to work hard both day and night. Lieut.-Col. Jackson had intended to retire on his original position at Coombla, but the Coorgs were passing his flanks in large numbers, with the intention of cutting off his retreat. Authentic information was received that they amounted to 3000 men ; that the road was lined with them, every tree and post of vantage having been made use of. In addition to this, the stockade of Baylu-cotta, which had been taken without loss in the first instance, would now have proved a most serious barrier to the number that would have been left to reach it, after running the gauntlet prepared for them by the Coorgs ; and would have been defended by a force six or eight times the number of the attacking party, confident in their numbers and position, and anxious to prevent the Europeans from again getting into the open country. These reasons induced the officer commanding to move on Cassagode, a village six or seven miles to the southward of Coombla, and situated near the sea. Rumours had pervaded the camp that a road led there from the camp, and that it was unoccupied by the enemy : when, therefore, on marching, it was found that the head of the column led down the Coombla road, all supposed their information inaccurate, and prepared for a sharp day's work, and a bold dash at the stockade. The enemy's spies in the neighbouring jungle fired their matchlocks the moment the force was in motion, and these signals were carried on from point to point ; but, willing to avoid the useless encounter, the termination of which could only have been disastrous, the guides turned suddenly to the left, and speedily attaining an open and rocky ridge, where the enemy would have been heartily welcomed had they chosen to attack, retired leisurely towards Cassagode, which was not reached until nearly six p.m. The road, if road it could be called, was as bad as possible the whole way ;

but water, that greatest of all blessings, was occasionally met with, which made the march a light one. It strikes me as being rather an extraordinary case, that a private named Lindsay, of the 48th, who had his arm much shattered on the 3rd, should have walked the whole of these two last marches, which he did. The weather was dreadfully hot, but there was no means of conveyance. He was soon after sent down to Cannanore, where his arm appeared doing well for two or three months, but, pieces of bone continually exfoliating, amputation was at last deemed necessary, and resorted to.

Soon after the arrival of the force at Cassagode a Coorg came in with the flag of truce they had been ordered to present on the 4th; and it was soon after known that the other forces had been more successful than the western auxiliary column; which, remaining in Cassagode until the 9th, then took up its original position at Coombla. Jungle-fever then made its appearance amongst the Europeans, and by the 11th there were no less than fourteen cases in hospital. This, from the nature of the last few days' work, was to be expected; and the proper remedies having been used in time, no case terminated fatally. As the part of the narrative relating to this small party is now completed, I shall here add two extracts from the Governor-General's dispatches relative to the gallant officer who commanded it:—

“ Head-Quarters, Ootacamund, May 17th, 1834.

“ The conduct of Lieut. Colonel Jackson, in command of the north-western column, being under investigation, his Lordship refrains for the present from making any remarks on the operations of that part of the force.”

“ Head-Quarters, Ootacamund, Sept. 9th, 1834.

“ The Commander-in-Chief has much pleasure in publishing to the Army the following order, conveying the opinion of the Right Honourable the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in India.

“ The Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief, having had before him the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry, held at Bangalore, under his Lordship's instructions, to investigate the causes which produced the failure of the column under the command of Lieut. Colonel Jackson, in the late operations against Coorg, has much pleasure in publishing his concurrence in the opinion expressed by the committee respecting the conduct of that officer, viz:—‘ The Court do not see any reason to ascribe any blame to the Lieut. Colonel, and they would be doing him less than justice if they omitted to record their conviction, arising from the concurrent testimony of all the witnesses who have been examined,* that he most zealously and most unremittingly exerted himself for the good of the service on which he was engaged; and that, on every occasion when his column came in contact with the enemy, he was to be found at the point where danger pressed, and where his presence was most required.’ And this decision was approved of, and confirmed in the strongest manner, in a military letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors, under date 29th March, 1837.”

* Major Wright, commanding 40th N.I.; Captain Willatts, commanding detachment H.M. 48th; Captain McCleverty, H.M. 48th, Brigade-Major; Lieut. Webber Smith, 48th; and Captain Noble, 40th N.I.

COLONEL FOWLIS—WESTERN FORCE.

Cramped up in a narrow spot of ground, surrounded by jungle, and well tired out by the exertions of the day, the force under Colonel Fowlis quietly passed the night; and at six A.M., on the morning of the 4th, marched in advance, expecting even harder work than the day preceding. They were, however, disappointed, for not more than a quarter of a mile from the bivouac a letter from the Rajah to the officer in command was brought in, which, I believe, requested him to halt where he was, pending a negotiation with higher powers. This was peremptorily refused, and an answer was returned saying—"that the force would advance, but would not fire unless fired on." The flag of truce still remaining at the head of the column, the force, unopposed, proceeded on its march, much retarded by the number of trees and other impediments which had been thrown across the road.

The upper part of the ghaut was still more steep and difficult than the lower; but the stockade which commanded it at top having been reported as very formidable, all haste was made to obtain possession of it during the undecided humour of the enemy. This, after five or six hours' climbing, was peaceably effected, the enemy in great numbers retiring from the ghaut. Leaving a company to maintain this important post, the remainder advanced about a mile and a half to an open spot of ground, and there prepared to bivouac.

The Coorgs, from active enemies, now became useful friends, and, fearlessly entering the camp, established a bazaar, which was most opportune, as the provisions were in the rear with the guns; which the extreme difficulty of the road rendered probable would not be up until the day following. By hard labour, officers and men exerting themselves to the utmost, they were, however, brought up during the day to the neighbourhood of the stockade, a little below which they remained during the night, the stockade connecting the two positions; but this key of the ghaut having been secured, no danger could have resulted from a treacherous attack had one been attempted.

The following day the whole of the force under Colonel Fowlis was concentrated in Veer Rajunder Pettah, distant about five miles from the head of the pass. This town, built on the site of an inconsiderable village, in memory of a conversation between General Abercrombie, then going towards Seringapatam, and our old ally Veer Rajunder, may be termed a collection of five villages, named Aripent, Gundapett, the Bazaar, Chicapett, and the Pettah. There is a Christian Church here, and an Indo-Portuguese Catholic priest, with a congregation of 400 souls. The palace, built by the ex-Rajah, is a large building, surrounded by a high stone wall; and the only exception to its being strictly in the European style is its entrance, on either side of which is an immense elephant, of brick and stone, reaching to the first floor, and supporting a small square room, which juts out from the building, and is tastefully fitted up, and meant to represent an Howdah on their enormous backs. I was told that this building was entirely planned and built by the ex-Rajah and his people, without European assistance; but do not believe it.

After the 3rd the remaining forces, advancing into the Coorg territory, had no further fighting, with the exception of the morning of the

4th, when Colonels Lindsay and Stewart had a few straggling shots fired at them, but without bringing on any skirmish or doing any injury. In the course of the day the white flag was brought in, and, hostilities ceasing, these two forces moved on their respective destinations: the former towards Mercara, the latter to Veer Rajunder Pettah, which it reached on the 5th. Mercara was delivered up to Colonel Lindsay on the 7th, Appoo, the Commander-in-Chief of the Coorgs, coming over to us at the head of 500 men. This man, after the Rajah had surrendered himself to the British, went and prostrated himself before him. A few minutes previously the Rajah said that he had no power in his country, and that he had been compelled to go to war. This we knew to be false; and his violent and scornful manner to his traitor General convinced every one how gladly he would have used his late despotic and tyrannical power; but the tiger was enchained. He had had power but a week previous to murder his mother and all his brothers and sisters, and to throw their bodies into one pit, burying with the corpses of his family the sword that murdered them. But, thank God, his reign and race have passed away; and it is much to be regretted that other native governments, carried on in a manner equally infamous, should be allowed to continue. Oude, Nagpore, and the Nizam's territories are wasting away under the despotic blight that oppresses them. Our non-intervention system prevents the residents from interfering to hinder any meditated enormity; and when to the barbarous ruler a disciplined corps of our troops is lent, nominally to protect him from foreign aggression, but virtually to uphold his rule; the poor Ryot, beholding in despair the fearful odds of riches, discipline, and power against any attempt of his to meliorate his condition, emigrates or dies. But this subject I leave to those who can prove, from statistical tables, the deterioration in character and diminution in number of the peasantry; the consequent deficiency of the revenue, and increasing desolation of the land.

Mercara, in which was 28 guns and mortars, and 22 wall-pieces, surrendered on the 7th, without firing a shot, to Colonel Lindsay, who, marching in "with all the pomp and circumstance of glorious war," hoisted the British flag on the ramparts under a royal salute. Built by Mudrajee Wadeer, son of Ap Rajah Wadeer, in 1681, it soon became his capital. It was fortified by Tippoo, who called it Jafferabad, and from whom it was ultimately wrested by Veer Rajunder Wadeer. This prince, of whom I have so frequently made mention, was an extraordinary character, and now almost worshipped as a demigod by some of the Coorgs. He possessed most of the virtues, but was sullied by many of the vices of despotic princes. In his earliest youth he learnt the lessons of adversity, having been taken charge of by Hyder Ali, of Mysore, who promised to restore him to his country and throne when he should be of fit age to rule. On Hyder's death, in 1782, the young Coorg Rajah was removed by Tippoo from the fort of Gooroor to Periapsatam, where he was allowed 300 pagodas a-year for his maintenance; and one of his sisters was forced into the Zenana of the Sultan, to whose intercession it is more than probable he owed his life. After being confined there for four years, he succeeded, with the assistance of twelve of his native chieftains, in making his escape; and

from that moment commenced his lasting and deadly operations against Mysore. All ranks flocked to their hereditary Rajah; the Mysorians were driven out of the country with severe loss, and followed deeply into their own country, which was devastated as far as the revengeful Coorgs could reach. Mercara, or Jaffer-abad, however, still held out, nor had the Rajah the means of reducing it. The walls, 20 feet high, are surrounded by a ditch; and the ramparts, 8 feet thick, with a slight but well-built stone and mortar parapet, would have resisted the trumpery artillery at the Rajah's command. It is situated on a table-land, and, although it may be commanded at some distance, guns could hardly, in the face of an enemy, have been brought by the Coorgs up the difficult passes which lead to the table-land; each of which is strongly defended at the summit, and occasionally flanked. The fort is an irregular heptagon with small bastions, and its size does not much exceed a square furlong. The Coorg Rajah applied to the Bombay government for assistance, which being refused, he cut off all supplies from the garrison, which-coming to the ears of Tippoo, he sent a force to their relief. The Coorgs attacked this party, and after a distant cannonade they came to close quarters with swords, when 500 Mysorians were killed and 200 wounded. The remainder betook themselves to a small rising ground, where they were surrounded by the Coorgs. Veer Rajunder, hearing that Kauder Khan commanded, who had once showed him hospitality when he was benighted, offered to spare his life, and sent for him. Kauder Khan came and told the Rajah that if he spared his life Tippoo would massacre his family, and therefore begged to be allowed to throw some succour into Mercara and retire. Veer Rajunder granted his request, for friendship sake, and permitted him, after fulfilling his object, to retire unmolested to Seringapatam. Veer Rajunder then gave the Killadar of Mercara the option of standing a siege, or retiring unmolested. The Killadar replied that he would yield the fort when his provisions were exhausted: this he did, but reporting, at the same time, that the garrison had no money to pay their expenses back to Seringapatam, the Coorg Rajah sent them 1000 pagodas to be divided amongst them.

I have thus related how he became possessed of his capital, to give some insight into his chivalric character. Professing on all occasions the most boundless attachment to the British, and with a faith above suspicion, he was a better friend to us than ruler of his people. The escapes of his youth had accustomed him to danger; but his personal intrepidity, though sometimes guided by the most exalted generosity, was at others sullied by a savage fierceness. He was superior to the trammels of caste—a good husband, and a good father; but after the death of his Ranees, which deeply affected him, and appeared to impair his intellect, he became savage and morose: and his death, in 1809, was hailed as a deliverance by those whose situations compelled them to be near his person. He built the trumpery palace at Nackanaad shortly before his death, which, at this time, was occupied by his silly successor with a force of 1500 Mysorians, and about the same number of Coorgs. It was, however, confidently expected, from the exaggerated accounts he had heard of our prowess, that he would not venture to stand a siege; not but that the position is strong enough; and the

twenty miles of road from Mercara there was crowded with defences. The first half-way the road is tolerably good, but I counted no less than fourteen cuddungs or breastworks, some with broad ditches filled with the strong black thorn; and one timber stockade. Many of these cuddungs are old works, and, twisting about the jungle in all directions, return nearly to the point they started from; others are circles, and all are very difficult to turn. The latter half of the road is nearly impracticable for artillery, and might be defended inch by inch; however, both breastworks and stockades occur, but I did not count them. The whole distance is through dense forest. Nackanaad itself is strongly situated on the summit of a small but steep hill. Though commanded at the distance of 500 or 600 yards, it would have cost much time and labour, and many lives, to reduce it, had the Rajah chosen to put his own person in peril. This not being expected, the troops halted in anticipation of his delivering himself up, which he did on the night of the 10th to Colonel Lindsay, accompanied by about 2000 unarmed men, and 50 palankeens, with his women. The day before this some of his people made a dash at a picquet of the 51st Native Light Infantry near Manantoddy, which lost one havildar and thirteen privates before it could be supported.

Colonel Waugh now joined Colonel Lindsay at Mercara. Colonel Fowles, leaving a detachment at Veer Rajunder Pettah, took up a position at Mootramoody, a small village about eight miles from Mercara; from whence, on the 13th, the 20th N.I. marched to take possession of the palace of Nackanaad, which they effected without hinderance, and where they subsequently found a little treasure. I believe the whole amount of prize-money amounted to about thirteen lacs of rupees, and have reason to know that a Sub.'s share was about 270*l*. (all paid), a very liberal allowance for our few days' skirmishing.

KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Europeans.

14 Commissioned Officers. 2 Commissioned Officers.
139 Non-commissioned, rank and file. 144 Non-commissioned, rank and file.

Natives.

MISSING.

9 Native rank and file. 4 Native followers killed, and 16 missing.

In conclusion, I can only hope that my short narrative will be deemed correct by my old friends in this country and in India. My intention has been to recall days past in a distant land; and if any of the old Peninsula heroes should treat our little campaign with disrespect, I will only add, that, as they had the good luck to live in happier days, they should not laugh at the ill fortune of those who at present seem sentenced to form threes and fours in the barrack-square for the term of their natural lives.

I. W. S.

STORIES OF GREENWICH.

No. VI.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE GREENWICH PENSIONER."

Nothing can be more interesting to the minds of most men than to ramble through the domiciles of the Greenwich pensioners—those quiet havens where, after enduring the adverse gales of a stormy voyage, they may rest in security, or where, as the old song says, they may—

"Coil up their ropes, and safe anchor on shore."

At every step the attention is arrested by some object capable of exciting wonder or admiration: wonder, when we reflect upon the dangers passed through by some of these men during their "wide career;" and admiration as we behold the grey-headed noble veteran, perhaps reciting, with an air of modesty worthy of being copied, some of the moving scenes of his early days.

These are my feelings, however, let others think as they may; and it was under their influence that I, a short time back, entered a ward, bearing the name of the immortal Nelson, set apart for aged and infirm men. This ward is divided into rooms, or cabins, on either side, a passage of six or eight feet in width separating them; and each cabin has four fixed bed-places.

As I entered the door the first person who took my attention and hailed me was the character I am about to introduce. To attempt to convey the full gratification I received, while beholding and listening to this remnant of as good a seaman as ever put foot on a ship's deck, would be vain; but it is worth the trial, and at the risk of rendering tame and stupid tales of spirit and relations of noble deeds, I attempt it.

"Ah, English," said I, "how goes the world with you now?" The old fellow replied by giving my hand a hearty shake, and adding, "Very well, for eighty-six. I'm only eighty-six come my next birth-day."

"Only eighty-six?" I repeated, in some little astonishment.

"Why, yes," said he, "that's all, but my father lived to be a hundred and twelve, and my mother died at ninety-eight; but then they lived a better life than me."

"But you seem very strong," I continued, "there's twenty years more in you yet."

"Yes, thank God," he answered, "I'm hearty enough; but come and sit down, for I'm not so strong on my legs as I used to be."

I readily complied with the old man's invitation, and he began and ran through the various scenes of his busy life with a rapidity and strength of memory which made it difficult to follow him; and I was at last under the necessity of catechising, in order to obtain, with any degree of sequence, a sketch of his life.

"And where did you tell me you were born?" said I, as my old friend paused to take breath.

"Leith," he replied; "but I ran away from home when my twin brother died, and made my way to Sunderland, where I bound myself 'prentice to a captain of a merchant-ship. The ship was wrecked on one new-year's-day, along with fifty-seven sail, in Yarmouth roads, and only myself and another lad saved out of the crew. After that I joined

another merchant-ship, out of which I was passed into the King's service, and sent on board the *Jupiter*, 50, Captain Reynolds.

"One day," continued the old man, "we took a fine craft on the coast of Ireland. The *Jupiter* looked for all the world like an East Indianman, and a large cutter gave chase to us. We made all sail away, just to lead her on, or else we knew we should stand no chance of getting near her. The cutter sailed very fast, and just as it was dark she got alongside, and hailed us to heave-to. 'Give him a few of the foremost guns,' said Captain Reynolds, 'for I shouldn't like to hurt such a handsome craft.' We opened a fire from our upper-deck guns, and the French Captain was quite taken aback, and hauled down his colours. She was a fine large cutter, mounting twelve guns; and our First-Lieutenant, Mr. Cox was his name I think, was sent into her, and afterwards had the command."

This incident, though not of an uncommon nature (similar good fortune having attended many other ships of the description of the *Jupiter*), will show the power of memory in the narrator, for it must have taken place at least sixty years since.

"Where did you get that cut in your forehead?" I inquired, pointing to what must have been at one time a severe wound.

"That was in the *Jupiter*," he replied, "boarding a French frigate that we engaged and took.* I can't think of the ship's name now, to save my life, but I remember how it happened. I was quartered abaft on the quarter-deck as a sail-trimmer and rigging-man, and, after firing a few broadsides, Captain Reynolds ordered us to board. The frigate had got boarding-nettings triced up fore and aft, and while I was cutting the stops of it adrift with my cutlass I was knocked down and fell on the deck. I got up again, and there was the man who wounded me lying dead on the deck, shot by the man who was close behind me. I felt something warm trickling down my face, but I laid up right and left with the cutlass, and we carried the frigate. I never knew that my forehead was cut till our Lieutenant said to me, after the fight was over, 'English, my man,' says he, 'What's the matter with your forehead?' 'Not much, Sir,' says I; 'only a little blood;' for the blood was running down my face in a stream. 'Go down to the Doctor, my man, and get it bound up,' said he; but I stopped to do my work first, and then went below.

"The *Jupiter* was sent to cruise in the Channel after Paul Jones, just after he had captured the *Serapis*,† along with Captain Pearson, he that was afterwards in the college.‡ We caught sight of his ship once, and chased her into the Texel—got near enough to give her a broadside."

"Did you ever see Paul Jones?" I inquired, anxious to learn something original of that celebrated character.

* I have taken some trouble in endeavouring to find out whether any such action as this one here related is upon record, but without success. The reader must, therefore, do as I am obliged to do,—rely upon the old man's veracity, who certainly has a very trifling inducement, at this distant period, to romance.

† This must have been after Captain Reynolds received his flag, as he was promoted to the rank of Rear of the Blue in 1777, and the action of the *Serapis* took place in 1779.

‡ Captain Sir Richard Pearson was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Hospital.

"No," said he, "I never saw him myself, but I was shipmate long with plenty who knew him very well. He was in the pay of the French Government, and a desperate chap he was. Never would be taken."

"Not if he could have well helped it," I said.

"He always wore leaden boots in action," continued English; "that was because, if it came to the worst, he could jump overboard, and his boots would sink him."

Well, that's singular enough, thought I to myself; he was determined then that his heels should save his head, one way or other.

"How long were you in the Jupiter altogether," I asked.

"Six or seven years, I dare say; but it's a good deal of log to bring up. We had another action off Cape Finisterre with a French seventy-four, and fought her until she struck. The M—— frigate, Captain M——, was in company with us at the time, but she kept her wind and wouldn't come down to lend us a hand; and, as our ship was so much cut up in hull, spars, and boats, we could not manage to take possession. When our ship arrived at Lisbon afterwards, Captain Reynolds refused to see Captain M——, and, as Captain M—— went down the side into his own boat, he was pelted out of the Jupiter's lower deck ports with wads.* I stopped in her till such time as she was paid off, and then the Captain recommended me to Captain Inglefield, who had just commissioned the Centaur, going to the West Indies."

"Then I suppose you were in Rodney's action?" I remarked.

"To be sure I was," returned the old man; "I was in the 9th and 12th of April too; I don't call it Rodney's action, for my part. Sir Samuel Hood was the man that done the work that day. There wouldn't have been much done if it hadn't been for him."

Oh! thought I, here's something new. I encouraged him to proceed, however, because I feel quite satisfied that Rodney's character is too firmly based to be easily shaken.

"Yes, Sir Samuel Hood," continued the old man; "he that was afterwards Lord Hood, and Governor of this College—worth a dozen Rodneys; he was the man that got the day. The French Admiral, Count de Grasse, refused to give up his sword to Rodney. 'I strike to that ship,' said he, pointing to the *Barfleur*, 'and to no other.' He was a brave man, that Sir Samuel Hood, and a good officer—beloved by every man in the ship, and so he was in the College, as I've heard."

The old man's lungs were evidently untouched, for, although he had been talking for nearly an hour, he was fresh as ever, and, in fact, his previous exertion seemed only to have had the effect of getting him into better tune. The fondness of telling a long story to an attentive listener is inherent to all ages, it is, therefore, not at all surprising that those who, like English, have traversed many thousands of miles upon the vast ocean, and, in the course of a long life spent in active service, have seen and endured much, should delight in recounting their adventures. I watched the blood warm within his aged veins, and the fire of youth rekindle in the eye dimmed by time, as I recalled to him circum-

* I give this story to the reader as I have it; but have left both the name of the ship, and the *honourable* name of the Captain, blank, in order that it may give no pain, at this distant date, to the family. The old man also adds that, had Captain M.'s brother fallen in with him, he would to a certainty have shot him.

stances which I had learnt from the page of history; and he required no other stimulant to proceed.

"In the month of July," continued the old man, "our ship, with the *Canada*, *Ramillies*, the *Ville de Paris*, and some other prizes, sailed from Jamaica with the convoy for England. Soon after we got out a gale of wind sprung up, and our ships were all so crazy that two or three of them parted company, and bore up for Halifax. Most of them had been a long while out from England, and ships in those days were not so well put together as now. Just as we got off the banks of Newfoundland it came on to blow very heavy from the southward and eastward. The wind increased in furious squalls; but sometimes it would fall quite light. The day before the hurricane came on* one of the ships' boats, I think it was the *Canada's*, came alongside and took some provisions out of us; but she had hardly got back to her own ship again before the hurricane began, and in another hour the ships were under bare poles, for not a stitch of canvas would stand it. Towards night it moderated again a little, and our ship set a reefed main-course, and lay-to under it, and so did the *Ramillies*.

"All went on very well till the middle watch. I had the first watch, and went below and turned in all standing; but I hadn't been below long before the ship was on her beam-ends. All hands scrambled up on deck as fast as they could, for some of the ladders were unshipped, and when I got up it was dreadful to look at. The wind had shifted suddenly to the northward, and had taken the *Centaur* aback; the mainsail was all to ribbons in a twinkling, and there was the ship on her broadside, with her gangway under water, the sea flying over her like smoke. In five minutes more she would have foundered. The Captain was on deck, but the hurricane roared so loud that not a command could be heard. I managed to get near him; and he and the First-Lieutenant were talking of cutting away the masts. 'I'll do it, Sir,' said I; and next minute I was in the weather-mainchains. I laid down; and out knife. I only notched two of the lariards—and whiz! away flew the mast over the side. Before I could draw breath, a sea struck her forward, and the foremast went of itself. She righted so suddenly that I was all but washed out of the chains.

"The ship then rolled about so heavy, that, soon after her masts were gone, a heavy sea struck her abaft, and unshipped the rudder—so we had a very poor chance of ever making a port. The carpenter, Mr. Woodriff, came on deck, and reported that the ship made a great deal of water. The chain-pumps were accordingly rigged, and all hands took their spell at the winches; but, all we could do, the water increased; some baled, while others pumped—but all to no purpose. Sails were thrummed, and put under her bottom, and everything we could think of was done to save her. No ship was at hand to help us; and after three or four days at the pumps the men were knocked up, and laid down determined to do no more. The after-hold was all afloat, and the casks knocking about so that we couldn't get at any provisions—and the orlop-deck was blown up as well. At times the gale would moderate a little, and give us some hope; but no sooner had we rigged

* Of this, the most disastrous hurricane upon record, it is my intention, in a future paper, to collect, from living witnesses, as many details as possible.

a jury-mast, than it would come on to blow as hard as ever. The boats were got over the side, and whatever provisions could be got at were pitched into them, but no one seemed to care to go in them. Some danced about like madmen, and some cried like children; but when it came to the last pinch, and the ship was sinking very fast, Captain Inglefield, the Master, and ten men, besides myself, jumped into the plinnace, and shoved off from the ship. Hundreds were ready to jump in, but they were too late, for then all hands would have been lost.

"We left the ship about eight o'clock in the morning at that time. There was little or no wind; but a heavy swell was running, and there was very little hope for us poor fellows. Our boat leaked very much, having been so long on the booms, and we had only provisions enough for a day or two; but still we had a chance, though it was but a poor one. Our Captain did not let us know the worst of it: we did not know that we were 800 miles from land; Captain Inglefield kept that to himself. A young Midshipman jumped overboard after the boat shoved off, and we pulled him in. Some of the men hooted, and called us cowards for leaving them; but what could be done? The boat was already full enough, and we pulled away from her.

"A light breeze sprung up in the afternoon. We hoisted our sail,* and, as night closed in, we lost sight of the Centaur. It is most likely the crew swamped the other boat after we left, and the ship must have foundered that night, for all the pumps were worn out, and the water was nearly up to the lower deck before we quitted her. It came on to blow fresh in the night, and we were obliged to be continually baling the boat to keep her from foundering, as one sea followed another so fast that we had constant employment. Those who did not bale were seated in the bottom of the boat, up to their middles in water. All night long it blew very strong, and the sea ran very high, so that we had a very poor prospect of ever getting another glimpse of the sun; but a good Providence watched over us, and carried us through our troubles.

"At last the day broke. We looked all round in hopes of seeing some ship of the convoy, but nothing but clouds and waves could we see. It's a sad lonely sight that, to be in an open boat, and hundreds of miles from any land; but our Captain was very cheerful, and told us to keep a good look-out for the land. We had some little chance of making the island of Coroo, but we did not. The Captain got the latitude to-day, and then he knew we were past it, and shaped a course before the wind for Fayal, going four or five knots. Our dinner was a very poor one, consisting of a very small piece of raw pork, and about a quarter of a biscuit, with a little French wine to wash it down; nevertheless, we thanked God for it, looking forward to better times.

"As the sun came out, we stripped and dried our clothes, and bailed all the water out of the boat, which was beginning to stanch a little; and as we looked forward to making Fayal very soon, we began to cheer up. The Captain made us to sing songs and tell long yarns, and tried all he could to keep up our spirits.

"The wind shifted the next day, so that we could only lay our

* If the narrative handed down by Captain Inglefield, it is stated that they had neither sail, compass, nor quadrant. English affirms positively that they had all these necessaries. Which is right I leave my readers to determine.

course, and for some days afterwards the wind was variable. At times it blew hard, and, luckily for us, it rained; for all our water was in one small cask, which on the fourth day was all expended. We caught the rain by means of a pair of sheets that we found in the boat, and this kept us from famishing. Twelve days passed by, and still no land. All our biscuit was gone, and not a morsel of anything to eat. We then began upon our shoes, and ate them. Two more days past, and we began to look at one another. I am afraid in a few hours more we should have eaten one another.

"On the fifteenth day we had a strong breeze of wind from the westward. Our Captain was more anxious than we had ever seen him before. He knew that if we did not see the land soon it would be all over with us. I think it was about the middle of the day: I was forward in the bow of the boat: the day was very cloudy. I looked round to windward, and thought I saw the land. I rubbed my eyes, and looked again. There it was, sure enough, broad on the weather bow. I jumped up on the boat's thwarts, and cried out, 'There's the land, by G—d!'

"The Captain thought I was mad, and was very angry with me for swearing. All hands looked, but none of them would believe me. 'You must look in the clouds for it,' said I. 'There's the peak of Fayal, or I never saw Fayal in my life.'

"'You're right,' said the Captain; 'that's Fayall, and thank God for it. It was our last chance. Haul up for it.'

"If we had continued the same course we were steering for another hour, most likely we should have passed it, and then all hands must have perished. We could fetch in very well with the wind abeam, going four or five knots. The clouds soon broke away, and we made out the land quite well.

"'Has any man among you ever been in here?' said the Captain.

"'I have, Sir,' said I, 'in the Jupiter.'

"'To be sure you was,' said he, 'or else I should never have had you.'

"Well, we got into the harbour that night, and plumped the boat ashore on the beach: as soon as ever we got to the land, the people came down and crowded round us, and the same night we landed and were carried (for none of us could walk) to the hospital and put to bed. I had been so long without eating that I was some time trying to get down a morsel of bread; my tongue was dry and quite hard like horn. I could not sleep that night for thinking of the land. If I dosed off to sleep I dreamt directly that we were on the ocean again, and up I jumped and looked round to satisfy myself we were in port. The English Consul came down to us every day, and had us taken every care of, but it was a long time before we could get the better of our starvation. The Captain was the strongest, but he was very like to have died.

"The English Consul and the Portuguese treated us with the kindness of brothers, and owing to their care and attention all but one man, a quartermaster, recovered.* Our attendants fed us like birds, only a little at a time. I remember that, when a small piece of bread was given

* In this our hero again differs with Captain Inglefield's account. That states the man to have died the day before the boat made the land, and that all who were landed recovered.

me, I said I could eat ten times as much, but the gentleman laughed, and said I should have as much as I liked in a month's time: 'when you are well,' said he, 'you shall have a bellyfull.' "

"Providence was indeed very good to you," said I, after listening attentively to the above faithful narrative, "and what has become of all your companions?"

"I don't think there is any one left but me now," he answered; "Captain Inglefield died at Greenwich some years back, and he was the last but me. I often used to go to see him, and he was always very kind to me. Sullivan, the Captain's coxswain, was made gunner of a frigate afterwards, and he died and was buried at sea."

As I now thought I had heard enough for a commencement, I got up and took my departure, promising to see him again very soon, the more especially as he was in want of some tobacco. It afterwards struck me that, on reading the narrative of Captain Inglefield, I had never remembered seeing the name of English in the list of survivors, and, although convinced in my own mind that the old man was no impostor, yet I feared I should never be able to make use of the information. Under these circumstances I made several inquiries concerning him, and was at last so fortunate as to fall in with a man who had been his shipmate in the Centaur, and had been drafted into another ship in the West Indies. English then bore another name.

Thus armed, when I again met my old friend, I charged him with the fact. He could not deny it, and disclosed to me in confidence his real name. As I am under no necessity of publishing it, the facts being of themselves sufficient, I shall not of course break faith. Old tars very often are very much alarmed when charged with possessing an *alias*; they have paid dearly for their names, and are much more sinned against than sinning. The hardships endured by these poor fellows in the war time claimed for them no indulgence, and no sooner would a ship's company receive their pay, although they might have been in a foreign country for the previous eight or nine years, than, without suffering them to put foot on the shore, they would be separated from each other, and drafted into any ship at the time fitting out. There are many instances amongst the pensioners where *nine year's* pay and prize-money have been sacrificed on the altar of liberty.*

Not to diverge, however, from the main object, let us return to old English. I demanded of him his next ship. I learnt from him that he afterwards returned for a short time to the merchant service, and after that he joined Sir Richard Bickerton in the —, where he served in the second American disturbance. From this ship he deserted, and ever afterwards went by the name of English.

He joined the *Pallas*, and was in her with the gallant Cornwallis, when he made his celebrated retreat; and in this ship he was wrecked in Plymouth, under Mount Batten, in 1798.

* I should delight to hear that all "R.'s," contracted under such circumstances, were removed.

SCENES IN A MILITARY HOSPITAL.

OPORTO.

No. II.

THE DUELLIST AND GAMESTER.

Bid not thy fortune troll upon the wheels,
 Of yonder dancing cubes of mottled bone;
 And down it not, like Egypt's royal harlot,
 Dissolving her rich pearl in the brimm'd wine-cup.
 These are the arts, Lothario, which shrink across
 Into brief yards—bring sterling pounds to farthings,
 Credit to infamy; and the poor gull,
 Who might have lived an honour'd, easy life,
 To ruin, and an unregarded grave."

FROM the period at which the last narrative dates, I became a frequent, indeed almost daily hospital visitor, and in conjunction with a few others, endeavoured, as far as lay in my power, to alleviate the wretchedness and suffering of the unfortunate tenants of these horrible charnel-houses. We were but little interfered with, and were consequently enabled to effect many apparently trivial alterations in the treatment of the sick and wounded, that very materially ameliorated the condition of the sufferers. To describe the "scenes" witnessed day after day in these lazarettos, that should convey an adequate idea of their atrocity, would require another pen than mine; they were such as absolutely maddened many of the fated inmates. Of the treatment of the living I will not trust myself to speak for an instant, it would be too revolting; but I will picture the victim when dead.

When a man expired of disease, or from wounds, or fell under the knife of the ignorant practitioners (in general mere boys), no further sensation was produced, or other notice taken of the circumstance, beyond the fact, that one other body was added to the list that was to complete the regulation number of corpses ere they could be carted away. But death was too sure of his victims in these pestilent abodes to permit the truck long to remain unoccupied by the tale being incomplete. The bodies would then be dragged from where they lay, and flung into it with less ceremony, and as little feeling, as carcases from a slaughter-house; they would then be hurried off to the nearest possible vacant space without the hospital gates, and tossed and crammed into a hole barely deepened enough for the purpose, a little earth scraped across them; and, if from insufficient space an arm or leg protruded, amidst filthy jests, or idle scoffing, a blow from a mattock, a callous and ferocious stamp of the heel, would conclude the matter; and thus, without a semblance of religious rite, were the victims hurled into their temporary grave, like the beasts that perish, who awake no more.

Then came night with its hideous scenes; the famished dogs in hundreds might be heard fighting over the mangled bodies they had scratched from the grave, and were banqueting upon; and in the morning there lay human bones scattered about the streets, and exposed to view in the public pathway; yet, from familiarity, scarcely creating remark, and quite unheeded. There were exceptions certainly in the conduct of the leading officers, by whom all this was permitted; but it is the rule that is spoken of; for by far the greater number of Oporto

colonels and majors were men of utterly lost reputation and abandoned character.* I have, however, myself seen, occasionally, some one of a few old-fashioned members of the expedition, who had been driven out to Portugal by misfortune and starving circumstances, unmindful of the general ridicule—bare-headed, and with prayer-book in hand, reading over the soldier's grave that beautiful portion of our liturgy that speaks of hereafter hopes, yet reminding us of the frail tenure of man's existence, that "from dust we came, and unto dust must we all return."

It was a day in the month of June, when I had just concluded a glance around the different wards of one of the hospitals, and was on the point of quitting, when, while saying a few words to the hospital serjeant, my attention was arrested by a faint but prolonged moan from a tressel near which we were standing. It was in a corner of the apartment, and somewhat separated from the others. I started at the sound; for, although there was a piece of mattress on the board, and the remains seemingly of a soldier's cloak or coat, yet it had appeared to me untenanted. "Good God!" I exclaimed, "there is no one here, Johnstone, is there?" At the very moment of speaking, and before he could reply, I saw the arm of what had once been a human being waving idly and convulsively in the air: and such an arm!

"Oh!" said the half-intoxicated attendant, "isn't he dead yet? Well, it must be nearly over with him, and we've really so much to attend to." Unfeeling miscreant! I thought.

I went to the broken-down tressel, and softly withdrew the tattered covering. I think that the view which there met my gaze will haunt me, sleeping or waking, to my dying hour. There lay an emaciated, helpless creature, almost in a state of nakedness, the torn and rent remains of a munition shirt being all the covering he had. In his ravings and writhing agony, it had been riven nearly piecemeal from his body. Death had already affixed his seal upon his brow. He was evidently dying, not from wounds, but the prey of disease and want.

He lay, as it were, in a heap. The limbs and body were knotted together by pain. He was frightfully attenuated: the bones had all but protruded through the skin. His whole appearance was unearthly: the very workings of the heart appeared palpably visible. He had, in fact, been neglected and overlooked by the hospital fiends, and *literally starved to death*. It was the scorching summer season, the weather at the time warm to intensity, sultry to suffocation, and the very atmosphere throughout the hospital was pollution.

The flies were encircling and playing around him unchecked, in a manner hideous to behold, and had settled upon his face in myriads. The features were not alone disguised, but blackened with them. Yet life still lingered. It was the struggle of a strong man with death; and the faint effort at motion, and the expression of agonised suffering,

* Such men, for instance, as the gallant, kind-hearted General Dodgin—the beau-ideal of an old and honoured soldier; the Williams's—more chivalrous, or high-minded gentlemen could not be found in the British Army; Brownson, too, with his "Recollections of Badajoz;" and poor, regretted Bruce Mitchell: names that make the bright side of the picture—but these (with *perhaps* one or two more) number too few to redeem the character of the expedition from the utter ruffianism of its members as a body.

that had first drawn my attention, had been a futile endeavour to rid himself of these frightful torments. Happily the mind slept, for his sufferings had been such as had produced unconsciousness. He was insensible to all but the sharp bodily pangs of the moment. My very blood chilled at this horrible sight of human misery: I felt shocked beyond expression. Even the brute beside me appeared a little, yet *still* a little, unnerved, and indistinctly muttered of having "*given him something yesterday!*" It was with difficulty I restrained myself. I raised the poor creature a little, and placed him in a more easy position, and desired the hospital serjeant to fetch some tea. He left the ward on my errand.

I removed the flies and other insects from the sufferer's face with my handkerchief, and then perceived, with a shudder, that the features were not only disfigured by them, but that one of his eyes was completely destroyed. In fact, though horrifying to relate, the work of corruption had commenced while life remained. The attendant had now returned.

"What have you brought?" I asked.

"Some water, Sir," was the reply.

"Water! Why didn't you bring some tea?"

"No orders from the Doctor, Sir."

"D—the Doctor!" I called out, irritated beyond endurance at the wretch's brutality. "Get some instantly!" and I threw a piece of money at him. He picked it up, and, returning it to me, said, "I will get whatever you order, Sir." He quitted the room, and returned in a few minutes with what I had desired. I held the bowl to the lips of the dying man, and was surprised at his suddenly grasping it with both his hands and drinking off its contents at a draught. The effort exhausted him, he fell back upon my shoulder immediately. I laid him gently down, and perceived that consciousness, painful to reflect upon, was beginning to return, and, from the first indistinct murmurs that escaped him, I became spell-bound—for I discovered it was no other than the once gay and celebrated M——, whom I had been supporting!—a private soldier!—the dying tenant of a stall in a common hospital. Can it be? * * * *

Unhappy man, I thought, and is this the closing scene of a career so chequered, so fatally marked, so fraught with evil in its progress? * * * *

It had more than once been circulated among the *on dits* of mess-table talk, that the notorious Captain M——, the duellist and gamester, was actually serving in the Anglo-Portuguese force as a private soldier, but I had little heeded the rumour, deeming it too improbable to waste even a thought upon—that a man once of fortune, of high station, whom even capricious fashion had invested with celebrity, and bowed to as a leader—that M——, whose "successful gallantries" had been a world's talk and a world's wonder—that such a one should have so fallen, 'twas impossible, an idle tale—yet here he lay, uncared for, unknown. Was not this a lesson, a something to ponder and moralise upon?

Almost the first effort, upon partially recovering himself, had been an eager asking, a shriek for "food." I hardly knew what to do, it was a fearful responsibility: to let him have it might be dangerous, there was no one to consult. The superintendents were, for the most part, at their

Bacchanal indulgences, their mid-day orgies ; to disturb them under these circumstances, merely to minister to a dying man, would have been an unheard-of outrage.

I, however, ventured to give him a little rice, sending meanwhile for a mate of the hospital. He snatched at it with his gaunt and bony fingers—clutched it—devoured it with all the ferocity of famine.

I felt it to be a duty, or I could never have supported the revolting but piteous scene. He then eagerly entreated for "bread—bread." I let him have a small portion of biscuit, fortunately with no ill result ; and on the hospital mate arriving, he permitted, in addition, a small measure of wine, something less than a wine-glass : it might have been injudicious, but it afforded him great relief. He was now fully restored to self-possession, although very faint. He mentioned me by name. "Mr. Leslie," he said, "I have frequently wished to speak with you, as you passed through the hospital, yet was ever reluctant to do so. Mr. Leslie, I—I—" Interrupting him, I begged he would think of nothing at that moment, but endeavour to compose himself and get a little sleep. "Sleep!" he exclaimed, starting up with unnatural energy, "my G—, I have never known what it is to sleep for years. Sleep! you mock me, Sir." His past career had been too prominent for me to be ignorant of many of its details, and I tried to lure him from harrowing retrospection, to soothe and tranquillise him, but in vain. The chord had been struck—conscience was plying its office, and the gnawings of the worm that dieth not were distilled upon his brow. He burst forth into wild and hideous laughter, shook his clenched hand in the air, shouted, screamed with more than maniac phrenzy, and then came imprecations so fearful, so terrible, that even those around grew pale, shuddered, and felt uneasy. Paroxysm after paroxysm succeeded, until at last exhausted nature gave way, he could bear up no longer, and seemingly holding converse with himself, and with indistinct murmurings upon his lips, he fell off into a doze. This was a grateful relief to the lookers on.

In the evening I again visited him : he was then perfectly calm, the fever that had preyed upon him had subsided, but it had left him miserably weak ; I had never before seen a human being so awfully prostrated by suffering, or utterly wrecked in mind. He seemed to have suddenly awakened, as from a dream, to the full consciousness of his miserable state. I once more stood beside his couch. "Oh! Mr. Leslie," he cried, in a hollow whisper, "what I *have* suffered!" There was an emphatic feeling in that whisper that spoke volumes. "None can ever know, Mr. Leslie, what I *have* suffered ; it has driven me mad—mad,—it has killed me." The sweat of agony covered his forehead, and coursed down his face, but he somewhat recovered himself in a few moments. I seized the opportunity to offer my services, to beg he would make use of me in any way he felt it was possible I could contribute to his comfort, expressing a hope that, though his illness had been severe, yet that with care and good attendance he would yet come round. It was an endeavour to inspire a hope that could never be realised, he felt it to be delusive, and expressed it. "It is too late, Mr. Leslie," he exclaimed, in a mournful tone, "too late, Sir, but I feel your kindness, and am grateful for it ; yours is the first voice that has sounded in my ear with such an accent for many a long day." In the course of a half-

hour I remained with him he made several inquiries as to individuals serving in the expedition, and he surprised me not a little by telling me that his forlorn situation was well known to more than one of the officers who had been the boon companions, it seemed, of his by-gone days. "I do not think, Mr. Leslie," he continued, "had our situations been reversed, that I could have forgotten an old friend in such extremity; had it been their billet instead of mine (mentioning the names of two of the most prominent of the auxiliary host), I do not think I should have been found so reckless of an old friend's fate: I should not have thus neglected them." . . . My every sympathy was elicited for the poor, forlorn, and world-abandoned man, and I essayed in all possible ways to cheer his broken spirit. I could not remain long with him, for my own duties pressed upon me; I, however, had the satisfaction of seeing him placed as comfortably as circumstances would admit of, and quitted the hospital with the assurance of his now meeting with proper attention.

In the morning I called upon some two or three of the individuals he had designated by name as old acquaintances. To be brought into contact, under any circumstances, with adventurers of their stamp, was far from desirable; but, considering it was possible he might have erred in believing them to be cognisant of his wretched state, I overcame all reluctance upon the point, feeling that their presence at his bed-side might be some balm to his sufferings. When my errand was made known, I was coldly repulsed; any knowledge of the poor man was disclaimed altogether, or made light of, and to my expressed hope that they would spare time for a visit of mercy to their dying companion, to soothe his now brief passage from time to eternity, I was met by evasive responses or callous and heartless refusal.

On my visit to the hospital in the afternoon of the day, I found him fast nearing the grave, and far less composed than he had appeared overnight. He questioned me if I had seen either ——— or ———. I tried to excuse their absence upon the plea of duties; but he saw through the veil I had cast around the inhuman fact—it cut deeply; but why pursue so distressing a picture? * * * * *
 Poor creature! thy every support indeed seems now cast away from thee—where wilt thou now turn for consolation? The poet's dream* to thee, then, is really a fiction—death in the body can alone be thy world's Lethe, for thou canst not shut out the past from memory's burning page, and Ennoe brings back no sunny spots to dwell upon of times gone by—the remembrance of past pleasures, of virtuous hopes, and honourable aspirations, those green oases of the mind, are not for thee!

Once more his passions were aroused—again he raved—when, taking advantage of a moment's return to calmness, I ventured to approach him with the subject of religion; but he heard me not, and rejected its consolations—for, amidst the follies of a castaway life, he had clung to the pestilent philosophy that would ascribe creation to chance, and boasts in its foolishness that madness of the soul that knows not of a God—

* 'Twas the fanciful dream of an olden poet, that there were two rivers, Lethe and Ennoe: by laying in the waters of the one, oblivion was attained—while drinking of the other stream, all our bygone pleasures passed in joyous review before the mind. I think the passage is in Dante, but I can't at the moment stumble upon the exquisite lines.

he indeed deserved commiseration. Finding I could be of no further service or comfort at the moment, I left the hospital, pondering upon the sad, sad scene I had been a witness to—and, in a Christian land, it brought too vividly to my mind the forcible picture of a writer who has so well spoken of the closing scene of existence, that “the number of the dead long exceedeth all that shall live. The night of time far surpasseth the day, and who shall know when was the equinox? Every hour adds unto that current arithmetic which scarce stands one moment. And since death must be the *Lucina* of life, and if even Pagans could doubt whether thus to live were to die—since our longest sun sets at right descensions, and makes but winter arches, and, therefore, cannot be long before we lie down in darkness, and have our light in ashes—since the “brother of death daily haunts us with dying mementos, and time that grows old itself bids us hope no long duration—diuturnity is a dream and folly of expectation.”

* * * * *

I had no opportunity of returning to the hospital for several days; when at last I did so, on inquiring for M——, I learnt, not with anything like surprise, but yet with a feeling of regret, that he had expired the day succeeding my last visit, but under circumstances so fraught with painful detail, that it will be well to draw a veil over the last melancholy moments of the Duellist and Gamester.

MEMOIRS OF GENERAL AND FLAG OFFICERS RECENTLY DECEASED.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL JAMES MOORE, K.C.

GENERAL MOORE was the son of John Moore, Esq., whose ancestor settled in the north of Ireland in the early part of the reign of James the First, and, as generally believed, was a younger son of the ancient family of Mure or Moore, of Rowallan, in Scotland, of which family was also the beautiful Elisabeth Mure, Queen of King Robert the Second of Scotland, and mother of King Robert the Third. At the age of sixteen James Moore was gazetted to an Ensigncy in the 11th Regiment of Foot, and in 1780 (19th January) he obtained his Lieutenancy in the same corps. From the peace of 1783 till the commencement of the war of the French Revolution the 11th Regiment was stationary at Gibraltar, where General Moore, and many other officers who have since risen to distinction, were then serving as subalterns in the old “North Devon.” Here it was that many of these officers became known to Prince Edward, then in the heyday of youth and frolic, and in command of the Royal Fusileers, and it was from among the officers of this garrison, and particularly of the 11th Regiment, that his Royal Highness selected many of his early friends—but friends that continued in the service of the Duke of Kent as long as his Royal Highness lived. General Moore was one of these, and not the least distinguished by his Royal Master: for upwards of twenty-six years he was a confidential Equerry. He did not accompany the Duke into Devonshire, but was sent for when his Royal Highness was taken unwell, and had the melancholy duty of conveying to the Prince Regent, and the other members of the royal family, the mournful intelligence of his Royal Highness’s death.

From his long standing as a subaltern (nearly 20 years—for promotion was slow in those days,) General Moore got permission to recruit for a troop of dragoons, on the first augmentation of the army at the commencement of the war; and having succeeded in procuring the requisite number of men he was gazetted a Captain in the then 26th Light Dragoons. He accompanied his regiment to the West Indies, and remained with it during

the whole period they were kept on that service. He assisted in the capture of St. Lucia and the other French Islands, and was almost constantly in the field during the Maroon war in Jamaica. He subsequently obtained the majority of the regiment when they became the 23rd Light Dragoons, and accompanied Sir Ralph Abercrombie to Egypt, on the general staff of the army, where he greatly distinguished himself on service with the Beys.

While the troops of the expedition were detained in Marmourie Bay, General Moore was sent into the interior of the country to procure horses for the cavalry. By his frank and conciliatory manner, his noble figure and very distinguished horsemanship, he became a great favourite with the Arab chiefs, and certainly succeeded better in his mission than any other officer employed. On the renewal of hostilities, after the truce of Amiens, General Moore accompanied his friend the late Sir John Stuart to Sicily, where he was placed on the staff as an Assistant Adjutant-General. He was the head of this department with the troops detached to Calabria, was severely wounded at the battle of Maida, and for his gallantry on this occasion he received a most splendid sabre from the Patriotic Fund. General Moore continued on the staff of the Sicilian Army till 1809, when hearing that his regiment had been ordered to the Peninsula he resigned his appointment and proceeded to Lisbon, which he reached the very day the battle of Talavera was fought. The 23rd Dragoons suffered so severely in that action that it became necessary to send them to England to be recruited; but Moore, preferring activity abroad to idleness in England, soon obtained leave to rejoin his friend and patron Sir John Stuart. He remained on that staff until his standing as a Colonel entitled him to ask for an appointment as a Brigadier-General; and as such he was removed to the Channel Islands, where for about two years he had his head-quarters at Alderney. In 1814 he received the rank of Major-General, and in 1830 became a Lieutenant-General. He had not been employed since 1816. He was upon the Duke of York's list for a regiment, but up to the hour of his death he had not received any of the honours or emoluments of the service beyond his retired allowance.

Few men ever passed through a long life more generally beloved, and certainly none more deserving of being so. He was always most kind and obliging, and never so happy as when he could serve or in any way promote the interests of a friend. About twenty-one years ago he married Miss Cecilia Watson, the only child of William Watson, Esq., Sergeant-at-Arms to the House of Lords. This amiable Lady, herself long in a very delicate state of health, has now to mourn the loss of one of the best and most affectionate of husbands.

As a man and as a gallant soldier General Moore had no superior. He was always considered one of the handsomest men in the army. To the last he retained the elegant manners of a perfect gentleman, and, though bred in camps, was a polished courtier. He was indeed a model for a British officer—brave as a lion, yet gentle as a lamb. From his having been almost constantly employed with the Mamelukes in Egypt, he had acquired a perfect knowledge of their language and of their manners. When the chief, Elfi Bey, visited this country, in 1804, Colonel Moore was selected by the Government to attend him as his Aid-de-camp. The Bey was also a very handsome man, and his Arab horse a noble animal. The Duke of Kent had a picture taken of the trio, the figures nearly as large as life—it was done by the Baroness de Tott, and is a magnificent picture. After the Duke of Kent's death Mrs. Moore obtained possession of this picture, and it is now at the Pavilion. On General Moore's marriage with Miss Watson, the Duke of Kent, with whom the bride was also a great favourite, gave them one of the pavilions attached to the Palace of Hampton Court, but situated in what is called the Home Park, of which his Royal Highness was then ranger; and in this sweet retreat they have ever since continued to live:—for George the Fourth, when the General waited upon his Majesty with the account of the Duke's death, kindly

observed, "General, you have lost a friend, you must not lose your house ;" and his late Majesty, knowing the regard his illustrious brother had for this faithful servant, continued to him the Pavilion ; and it is with pleasure we have to record, that ere yet his cold remains had been removed to their last resting-place, her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen, caused it to be intimated to his mourning widow, in terms the most gratifying, that the same residence would be continued to her for her life. This is indeed doing honour to a father's memory, and truly characteristic of those noble and generous feelings which Her Majesty is known to have possessed from earliest childhood.

For several years General Moore's health has been gradually declining, and both his mental and bodily powers have been silently giving way to the effects of age. About three weeks before his death, he was seized with the prevailing influenza, and from the debilitating effects of this disease he was never able to rally.

These few lines to the memory of a friend are penned by one who knew him well, and had he been permitted to enlarge the sketch, could have brought forward many public as well as private documents, all certifying to his distinguished military services as an officer, and his great private worth as a man.

This old and distinguished officer died at his residence the Pavilion, Hampton Court Palace, on the morning of the 24th of April, 1838, in the 78th year of his age.

REAR-ADMIRAL GEORGE TOBIN, C.B., &c. &c.

THIS excellent officer was the second son of James Tobin, Esq., of Nevis, a gentleman of high literary attainments.

Admiral Tobin was born at Salisbury on the 13th December, 1768, and entered the Naval Service under the patronage of the late Admiral Herbert Sawyer, as a Midshipman on board the *Namur*, a second-rate, forming part of the Channel Fleet, in June, 1780, at the early age of eleven years and six months.

Early in 1782 the *Namur*, then commanded by Captain Fanshawe, accompanied Sir George Bridges Rodney to the West Indies, where the *Namur* was distinguished in the memorable actions of the 24th and 12th of April of that year, young Tobin being then stationed on the quarter-deck as aid-de-camp to the Captain. The *Namur* returned to England in 1783, and was paid off in consequence of the general peace.

Mr. Tobin then joined the *Bombay Castle*, 74, stationed as a guard-ship at Plymouth, where he continued improving himself in the scientific as well as the practical branches of his profession until the spring of 1785, when he rejoined his friend Commodore Sawyer in the *Thisbe* frigate, and sailed for Nova Scotia, where he completed his time as a Midshipman on board the *Leander*, of 50 guns. He served some time in the *Assistance*, 50, when, that ship being put out of commission, the young officer was, like others, without employment in the time of peace.

Being of an active inquiring mind, passionately fond of his profession, and tired of a shore life, he was offered, and accepted, the situation of mate of an East Indiaman, and, between 1788 and 1790, he made the voyage to Madras and China.

Upon Mr. Tobin's return to England, the Spanish disturbance caused an armament to be fitted out in the British ports, and he joined the *Tremendous*, 74, fitting at Chatham, when he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, November 22nd, 1790.

In the spring of 1791, Lieutenant Tobin was selected to accompany Captain Bligh as Third Lieutenant of the *Providence*, of 16 guns, on a voyage of discovery, and to take the bread-fruit tree and other plants from Otaheite for transplantation in the West Indies. The *Providence* sailed on the 2nd August, 1791, accompanied by the Assistant brig of 6 guns, commanded by Lieutenant Portlock. Having encountered many dangers,

and exhibited the most masterly seamanship, the object of the voyage was accomplished in the most satisfactory manner; many rare and valuable plants, now of the highest importance to the West India Islands, being landed at St. Vincent's and Jamaica in the most perfect order, in January and February, 1793.

The Providence returned to England in August following, having brought home two natives of Otaheite, one of whom died soon afterwards of smallpox.* He was an amiable young man, and was much regretted.

Mr. Tobin being an excellent draughtsman, and having a rapid perception of the sublime and beautiful, employed himself in making surveys, and drawing and sketching the most remarkable and novel scenes of this interesting voyage. Upon his arrival in England, he was ordered to give up all his remarks, drawings, charts, &c., to the Admiralty, where they have been retained ever since; for the late Admiral could never recover them, though he made often-repeated applications to the Admiralty.*

Previous to his return to England, Lieutenant Tobin received letters informing him that Captain Horatio Nelson, who had a few years before married a relation of his mother, Mrs. Nesbit of Nevis, had kept the third Lieutenantcy of the *Agamemnon*, 64, open for some time, in the hope of his joining that ship. But being out of the country, he could not avail himself of the opportunity of being under the command of our great naval hero. It may be interesting to give extracts of Nelson's letters to his wife regarding the subject of our memoir at that time, and the estimation in which he was held by the naval hero:—

"June 13th, 1796.—What is become of George Tobin? He is a fine young man. It is a pity he has not got more forward."

"July 12th, 1797.—I am sure the time is past for doing anything for George Tobin. Had he been with me, he would long since have been a Captain, and I should have much liked it, as being exceedingly pleased with him."†

A few months afterwards, Lieutenant Tobin was appointed to a fine frigate, the *Thetis*, commanded by the Hon. Alexander Cochrane, a most active and zealous officer.

The *Thetis*, after cruising some time in the winter season on the coast of Norway, proceeded to Halifax with the squadron under the orders of Rear-Admiral George Murray, where she proved a most active cruiser. Upon the promotion of Lord Cochrane, Mr. Tobin became First Lieutenant of the *Thetis*, and was afterwards removed into the *Resolution*, 74, the flag-ship, from whence he was promoted to the rank of Commander, and appointed to a fine new cedar sloop of war, the *Dasher*, built at Bermuda in August, 1798.

Having commanded the *Dasher* twelve months on the American coast, Captain Tobin was ordered to convy the homeward-bound trade; and upon his arrival in England, he used every effort to be placed upon the Mediterranean station, in order to be near Lord Nelson, but in vain. The *Dasher* was placed under the orders of Sir Thomas Pasley, at Plymouth, and was chiefly employed on the coast of France off the Isle of Bas, in the irksome and perilous service of intercepting the coasting trade of the enemy. In June, 1801, while chasing a French convoy on the coast of

* We consider this a very great injustice towards the officers employed in such expeditions; for however it may be required for the commanding officer to make out the narrative of the voyage, such documents should afterwards be returned. We have seen many most gross plagiarisms from such unpublished works sent forth with all the emblazonment of high literary talent, unacknowledged, and rapaciously seized upon to adorn the brows of a mere collector.

† See Clarke and M'Arthur's *Life of Nelson*, 4to edit. vol. i. p. 290, and vol. ii. p. 28.

Poitou, the *Dasher* got on shore near *Le Pont d'Yeu*, without receiving any material injury. Undaunted by this untoward accident, the boats were instantly hoisted out and placed under the command of the First Lieutenant, Bedford, supported by Lieutenant Nicholson in the Suwarrow schooner, who immediately pursued the enemy, and obliged them to set two brigs on fire to prevent their capture. While eager in the pursuit, one of the boats was unfortunately sunk by a shot from the stern-chaser of a national schooner, which deprived the gallant Bedford,* who had been previously wounded, of his left leg, and wounded a seaman and three marines.

Captain Tobin served actively in the Channel, under the respective orders of the Earl St. Vincent and the Hon. Admiral Cornwallis, until the *Dasher* was paid off at Plymouth, October 10th, 1801.

Ever active, Captain Tobin directed his attention while on shore principally to the fine arts, and was most useful to the celebrated marine painter, Pocock, in directing his taste in giving effect to the more minute nautical shades, as he has since done for the late Mr. Looney, the distinguished marine painter at Teignmouth.

In the general promotion, April 29, 1802, Captain Tobin obtained the rank of Post-Captain, and was appointed to the *Northumberland*, 74, bearing the flag of his friend the Hon. Rear-Admiral Cochrane off Ferrol, in September, 1804. He was actively employed on the coast of Spain until the *Northumberland* went in pursuit of the French fleet which had escaped from L'Orient to the West Indies. Upon their arrival at Jamaica, it was found that the French squadron had returned to Europe, and Admiral Cochrane was appointed to the command of the Leeward Island station, and sailed for Barbadoes.

In September, 1805, Captain Tobin assumed the command of the *Princess Charlotte* frigate, of 38 guns, and a complement of 264 men. On the night of the 4th October following, while cruising off Tobago, he fell in with the Cyane French corvette, of 20 guns and 190 men, and the *Naïade* brig of 16 guns and 170 men. Upon first discovering the enemy, they were so far distant to windward as to afford little chance of overtaking them by an avowed pursuit. Captain Tobin therefore disguised the frigate as much as possible, which had the desired effect of bringing them down off the middle of the night, when a close action took place, and continued above an hour, when the Cyane, commanded by M. Masnard, Lieut. de Vaisseau, surrendered after a gallant defence, having sustained a loss of three men killed and nine severely wounded. The *Princess Charlotte* had seven wounded, two of them mortally. The *Naïade* effected her escape by being to windward, and by superior sailing, but was afterwards taken by the *Jason*.

In the summer of 1806, the *Princess Charlotte* was ordered to see the homeward-bound convoy as far as the Banks, but having fallen in with four French frigates who had been committing great ravages upon our merchant-ships, the Commodore considered it dangerous to permit Captain Tobin to leave the convoy. The French frigates hovered around the fleet for some days, but, by the judicious arrangements made, they were deterred from annoying them.

Having refitted at Plymouth, the *Princess Charlotte* was ordered to the Cape of Good Hope, when, having sailed for that station, upon reaching the Eddystone, the signal of recall was made, and orders transmitted for Captain Tobin to proceed instantly to Ireland, to join the squadron of frigates, and proceed to Greenland in pursuit of an enemy's squadron which had done great mischief in the Greenland seas. After a most tempestuous cruise, the squadron was overtaken by a sudden and tremendous

* Lieut. Bedford is now one of the Lieutenants of Greenwich Hospital, a most excellent and worthy officer.

gale, which crippled all the ships, and even dismasted some. The Princess Charlotte only lost the main top-mast.*

In 1809 the Princess Charlotte escorted a fleet of merchantmen to Barbadoes and Jamaica; and returning from the West Indies, Captain Tobin was sent to St. Helena to bring home the East India fleet collected at that island. The vigilance and attention of Captain Tobin in keeping the ships together and bringing them safe to England, was so highly appreciated by the Honourable East India Company that they presented him with 200 guineas for the purchase of a piece of plate, and as an acknowledgment of his care and attention.

The Princess Charlotte having rejoined the Cork station, Captain Tobin had the gratification of receiving a handsome piece of plate of 100 guineas value from the Commercial Insurance Company of Dublin, accompanied by a most flattering letter expressive of the sense the Company entertained of his services in saving the ship *Maria*, John Murphy, master, one of the West India convoy.

During the remainder of the war Captain Tobin was actively employed on the coasts of Spain and France, where he captured several of the enemy's armed vessels, as well as many merchant ships, and did great injury to the coasting trade by constantly harassing them with the boats: and the launch, commanded by the late Mr. Salter, sustained a most gallant action against a much superior force sent expressly from Bilbao for his capture. The First-Lieutenant, John Scott (now Commander), and Captain Kellow, Royal Marines, were particularly active in annoying the French troops, by assailing them whenever an opportunity offered, and spiking the guns of the batteries on the coast.

In January, 1812, the frigate's name was changed from Princess Charlotte to *Andromache*. The present Princess Charlotte, of 110 guns, being laid upon the stocks at Portsmouth.

The *Andromache* formed part of the squadron under Sir George Collier during the siege of St. Sebastian; and after the fall of that fortress she escorted the French garrison to England.

On the 23rd of October, Captain Tobin fell in with a large Dutch frigate, *La Trave*, mounting 44 guns, with a complement of 321 men, which surrendered after a short action, Captain Van Maren having gallantly endeavoured to dismantle the *Andromache* by his stern-chasers during the pursuit, and afterwards sustaining the action till a most destructive fire obliged him to surrender.

La Trave had one man killed; her Captain, Jacob Van Maren, Member of the Imperial Order of Reunion, the Second-Lieutenant, two Midshipmen (one of them mortally), and twenty-four seamen, wounded. The *Andromache* had only the First-Lieutenant (now Captain Thomas Dickinson, the gallant and scientific officer who displayed such genius, perseverance, and talent in the recovery of the treasure lost in the *Thetis*, off Cape Frio) severely wounded, with one seaman!

The *Andromache* having refitted at Plymouth, proceeded to Passages, and joined the squadron under the late Admiral Charles Penrose; and on the 27th March, 1814, Captain Tobin was selected to lead the fleet in

* Many instances occurred of the determined bravery of the seamen, and their coolness in danger, upon this occasion. The sea was tremendous: some men were thrown from the yard while furling the sails. Humphrey Griffiths, captain of the main-top, was suspended by a rope catching him round the ankle joint. He had presence of mind sufficient, while swinging at every rise of the ship with his head downwards, to catch hold of another rope, to raise himself up, and to take his knife out and cut the rope which suspended him, escaping with very little injury from the pressure of the rope round the ankle. Jordison, another gallant seaman, having caught the legs of another man, who complained that he must drop if he continued, as he was so exhausted he could hardly hold on, instantly said, "Well, here goes," and, plunging himself into the sea, watched the roll of the ship, caught another rope, and was hauled in. The Princess Charlotte had sixteen men severely injured.

forcing the passage of the Gironde, which was executed in the most skilful and gallant manner under a heavy fire from the batteries. The officers and men of the *Andromache* were employed with those of the *Egmont*, 74, and other ships, in reducing the forts and capturing the ships in the river, until the 1st April, when the information of Napoleon's abdication, and the restoration of the Bourbons, arrived. Nothing could exceed the joy of the French people upon this occasion: they received the officers and men with every demonstration of friendship and delight, being heartily tired of the long and protracted war, so injurious to their interests.

In June, 1814, the *Andromache* formed part of the fleet assembled at Spithead during the visit of the Allied Sovereigns—one of the most noble exhibitions of the naval power of Great Britain ever beheld upon the high seas. After the review the *Andromache* proceeded to Deptford, where she was put out of commission, and the men drafted into other ships.

Captain Tobin then retired with his family to Teignmouth, in Devonshire, after such long and continued service afloat.

On the 8th December, upon the extension of the Order of the Bath, Captain Tobin was nominated a Companion of that most honourable Military Order; and, some time afterwards, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, by their own accord, and unsolicited, appointed him Captain of the Prince Regent yacht, which command he retained until his late Majesty presented that ship to the Imam of Muscat; when he was very soon promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the White.

About two years ago the gallant Admiral had a severe paralytic affection, which greatly impaired his health and constitution, and he continued to exist under occasional suffering until the 11th April, 1838, when he expired, universally regretted by those who knew him.

Admiral Tobin married, in 1804, Dorothy, the amiable and lovely widow of Major William Duff, of the 26th Regiment, daughter of the late Captain Gordon Skelly, R.N., who was drowned at sea about 1774-5—who, with one son, George Webbe Tobin, Esq., late of the 2nd Dragoon Guards, has to lament the loss of an affectionate husband and father.

Admiral Tobin was an officer of high accomplishments and attainments. He was one of the best amateur marine painters in the kingdom; a wit, and a scholar; exemplary in all the relations of life—he was an excellent husband, father, and friend. He had the most chivalric sense of honour, and could never condescend to meanness in the acquirement of money. This principle was exhibited upon many occasions; but the following anecdote may be a sufficient illustration of his high sense of duty:—

It was a common practice among the prize-agents in the West Indies to ingratiate themselves with the Captains of ships-of-war by offering advances upon their prize-money, and often neglecting to pay what was justly due to the other officers and men. Upon an occasion of this nature, when the prize-agent wrote to Captain Tobin, then commanding the *Princess Charlotte*, that his share of prize-money was ready to be advanced, Captain Tobin's reply was:—

"I have ever been averse, and trust I ever shall be, to receiving prize-money, unless my officers and men can obtain the same advantage. If you can pay the prize-money to the whole of us, I shall be ready to receive my proportion: if not, I decline receiving any, and desire that you will arrange the accounts as soon as possible for payment."

Admiral Tobin was a most anxious and vigilant officer at sea, and managed his frigate with a skill and talent which more than once saved the ship from being lost with all hands—when the most able seaman on board had given up all hope but in their Commander and a merciful Providence! He was beloved by his officers and men; and in him Her Majesty's Service has lost one of its brightest ornaments. Generous, kind, and benevolent, his memory will be long cherished by those who sailed under his command.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

FRANCE.

The budget for the Navy and Colonies for the year 1839 amounts to the sum of 66,890,600 francs, or about 2,675,624. The fleet in active service is fixed at 8 ships of the line, 12 frigates, 16 corvettes or sloops, 24 brigs, &c., and their crews at 20,317 men. The budget for the Army for the same year amounts to the sum of 237,985,187 francs, or about 9,519,407*l.*, which is 11,633,245 francs, or about 465,329*l.*, more than the budget for the present year.

NAVAL LIBRARIES.

Much exertion has been used since the year 1836 to improve these collections. The Marine Préfets of Brest, Toulon, Rochefort, L'Orient, and Cherbourg have sent in catalogues of the works required, which enumerate as many as twenty thousand publications, and will render yearly additions necessary. To these catalogues it is intended to add what is called a "Naval Bibliography" (*Bibliographie Maritime*), for which purpose the Minister of the Naval Department has addressed the French Consuls in foreign countries, calling upon them not only to procure such catalogues as can be obtained, but to furnish him with bibliographical notices of public and private collections. The Consuls-General in Genoa and Madrid have already complied with the requisition, and several documents have been received from London, but not by any means as many as had been expected from so extensive a site of navigation and commerce. The party employed in that metropolis reports, that there is but one naval library in the whole city, which is in the British Museum, nor even of this is there a complete catalogue. With regard to Holland, Admiral Volterbech has forwarded a list of all the Dutch publications having reference to naval matters. Similar researches are making in Berlin, Copenhagen, Stockholm, St. Petersburg, Lisbon, Venice, Naples, and even Constantinople. There is probably no library which possesses a more extensive collection of works on nautical subjects, than that of the General Depot of Charts and Plans in Paris: it contains 18,000 volumes of voyages and travels. The naval library at Brest is composed of 8000 volumes in excellent condition. The library of the Naval Hospital at Rochefort is admirably supplied with works relating to medicine and the sciences connected with it. It has been augmented by voluntary contributions to the extent of 22,000 francs (about 880*l.*). The Depot of Charts and Plans was founded in the year 1720; the library at Brest, in 1755; and the libraries of Toulon, L'Orient, and Rochefort were established under a decree of the National Convention, dated the 15th of February, 1794. The hospital libraries at Brest, Toulon, and Cherbourg were set on foot by a decree of the Directory on the 7th of February, 1798.

ALGIERS.

According to the latest returns, the city of Algiers contains 25,966 inhabitants, of whom 8232 are men, 8216 women, 5002 boys, and 4506 girls; but if classed in conformity with their religious tenets, the number of Roman Catholics is 7364; Protestants, 211; Mahometans, 12,316; and Jews, 6065.

AFRICA.

CEUTA.

This place, which is of considerable moment in a military point of view, much resembles Gibraltar, that lies opposite to it, both in situation and from the shape of the mass of rock on which it is built. Were it in the same hands, it would soon be converted into an impregnable fortress: even in its present state it is easy of defence, for it is fortified on every side, and completely secured against a *coup de main*. The town is divided into three quarters, Mount Acho, Almina, and the citadel. Mount Acho, which commands the entrance of the straits and the whole peninsula, is crested by a strong fort with ample entrenchments. The garrison is always on the *qui vive*, and keeps a vigilant look-out, as well on every vessel that passes the straits as on the Moors, who are impatient to repossess themselves of their ancient domain, and keep their little camps constantly planted round it. The citadel lies at the extreme point of the peninsula. It is protected by walls and a good wet ditch, and can only be entered by a drawbridge. But Almina is the most agreeable part of the town, or rather, it is the town itself, for it is the residence of the townspeople, merchants, and all the civil and military *employes*. Almost every house has its garden, redolent with verdure, fruits, and flowers, throughout the year. In this quarter are a small cathedral, two monasteries, (which by this time have suffered, I presume, the fate of their compeers in Spain), an hospital, and several schools, among which is one for educating pilots; but all these establishments are in ill-conditioned order. The population amounts to between 3000 and 4000 souls, exclusive of the garrison, which is always numerous. A quay runs along the edge of the sea, from which there is a fine view of the rock of Gibraltar, and the splendid maze of the Spanish coast. On the opposite side stands the "Alameda," or promenade, whence the eye roams along the whole coast of Morocco to the Kiff mountains, which bound the southern horizon. In the distance a white point is seen across this desert strand, the Kassaba of Ternan.

The government of Ceuta is usually vested in a Commandant-General, who has the military and police under his orders, and a Superintendent of Finance. Ceuta obtains its supplies, not only for the defence of the place and the maintenance of the garrison, but for the very subsistence of its inhabitants, from Spain. Armed zebebs of war are constantly employed in providing it with victuals and munitions of war, from which it is obvious that anything like a close blockade would be most severely felt. The Moors, however, have not resolution enough to resist the temptation of selling cattle to their enemy, a traffic to which the first shot would put a very inconvenient end.

Ceuta, like other Spanish settlements, is a place of transportation for "Desterrados," criminals sentenced to banishment; some to undergo the ignominy of galley-slavery, and others the penalty of mere exile. The latter are allowed to carry on their habitual occupations, or to enter a particular corps on military service; the former are chained together, like galley-slaves elsewhere, and put up at night in their own barrack. Both classes are maintained at the public expense. No one is permitted to land without license from the Commandant, nor do any obtain it so readily as those who have articles of sheer necessity to dispose of. The Spaniards likewise possess three other settlements on the coast of Morocco—Pesion de Velez, Pesion de Alhazemas, and Melilla. The first two are situated on the coast of the Riff, and the last in the province of Garet. They consist of three fortified castles, with a few houses under the protection of their guns. Velez is the strongest of the three, and Melilla is in repute for its honey; each of them has about 900 inhabitants. The population of Alhazemas is smaller, although possessed of a much finer site; for it com-

mands the bay, from which it takes its name, as well as the neighbouring town of Mezemma, and the mouth of the Neccor. These three strongholds are kept as well provided with troops and artillery as the distracted state of Spain admits.

TURKEY.

The "Ottoman Monitor," which is the official organ of the Turkish government, announces, that "as the study of the French language now forms so essential a part of military education in Turkey, his Imperial Highness has given special directions, that a school should be opened in the Seraskier's palace, where instruction is to be given in that language exclusively." Very strict directions have been given to the officers, who are intrusted with the duty of training the militia, to instruct these corps in all the exercises and manœuvres practised by regular troops.

CIRCASSIA.

The Circassian horse, who is here called a "Tshü," is a prime favourite with his owner. In elegance of make, beauty of figure, and suppleness of limb, he is in no ways inferior to the Arabian; from his peculiar kind of training and the peculiar character of the country. I know of no other of his kind who is a match for him in enduring fatigue and privations, or sure-footedness in traversing a precipitous line of territory. When the Circassian first breaks in his horse, he begins by throwing a halter round his neck, and draws it so tight that one should infer it was his intention to strangle him. In this state the animal is dragged round and round until he is almost exhausted, or at least till his courage is supposed to be sufficiently cooled down; he is ridden and exercised for a short time, and in a few days becomes as docile and obedient to his master as a dog. It would not be easy to name any part of the world where the horse is better treated, nor can any one be more skilful in managing him than the Circassian. His secret seems to consist in treating him kindly on all occasions; no blow is ever given him, and the consequence is that he is always full of mettle and playfulness, and, to all seeming, more delighted to obey than afraid of disobeying his master. Part of his acquirements is to swim and attain adroitness in every little art which may assist his master in mountain warfare; in fact, he ultimately becomes as keen and cunning, particularly in escaping from pursuers, as if he had borrowed his master's wits. I have frequently seen a Circassian lay himself down at his owner's feet, and lie as still as if he had been shot dead, while the owner concealed himself behind him, or stand as motionless as a gun-rest, while his master laid his piece upon his head, took aim, and fired it off. It is incredible the complete perception which the horse here acquires of every word his master says to him; and whatever our boasted civilization may have made us, we are wretchedly behind the simple-hearted Circassian in the science of treating a horse, as well as in securing his instant obedience by affectionate conduct towards him. No wonder that it should be a rare occurrence to meet with a vicious animal in Circassia. The horses, which are bred from their earliest age in a farm-yard, are so gentle that the very children play with them, and, as soon as they are fit for use, they allow a man to mount and ride them in without scarcely the necessity for applying any violent means of breaking them.—(*From private notes.*)

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

Remarks by Sir John Cameron on Colonel Lightfoot's Letter, touching the Busaco Controversy.

MR. EDITOR.—When I last addressed you, it was far from my intention again to trespass on you: but as the extracts from a letter of Colonel Lightfoot, formerly appearing in your Journal, are re-published, together with an additional paragraph of some importance, I am tempted to offer a few remarks.

"The Busaco Controversy" involves two principal questions.

The one is—Was General Picton's right flank or right centre exposed and in need of efficient assistance at that crisis of the action, when the fifth division came up, to use Colonel Lightfoot's words, "at double-quick?"

The other is—In what manner, or in what order, did the 45th, 88th, and 8th Portuguese, approach the enemy when first discovered, and what was the situation of the latter at the time, and in what order did "the 88th charge round the rocks on their right into the flank of the enemy's column on the slope of the hill and drove them precipitately down it?"

Referring to discussions in gone-by days, on the battle of Busaco, I am reminded of something about sections of companies said to have been thrown out by the 88th to cover their front, and of their being hotly engaged with the French tirailleurs, may I now take the liberty of asking, whether those sections were called in, or were they reinforced?

As to the first and more important question—with a desire to divest it of incidental or collateral matter—I may state, that I conceive the utmost respect for the general character and talents of a General Officer may reasonably be entertained by an individual who, on a particular occasion, is yet inclined to believe that this General Officer had, in a combined operation, in which his division took part, "left his flank exposed." Soult left the line of the Douro unguarded at Oporto—Frederick II. lost the battle of Rollin—Napoleon the battle of Waterloo.

If it appear that the right or right centre of the third division was exposed during the action of Busaco, I am fully borne out in the conclusion at which I arrived. To the fact I referred, and *not to the causes producing the result.*

General Picton may be fully justified in his measures on the field of Busaco, but to the features of that action, *as they presented themselves*, does my opinion apply. It may be observed, that *that* confidence in the Commander of the Forces, which I participated in common with the whole Army, authorises the belief that means were not wanting to General Picton.

I also see a vast difference between contriving a plan for the purpose of suiting particular views, and "wilfully misstating facts."

A very essential part of a military plan is the posting the regiments engaged. Plans or sketches of actions, such, Mr. Editor, as appeared in your Journal of the battle of Busaco, are resorted to in aid of writing, to convey ideas which it is desired to express: it is, therefore, not surprising that such sketches, particularly as to the position of troops, should be contrived for the purpose of suiting particular views: language must obviously be so, nor can I see (it may arise from "some strange obliquity of mental vision") any discourtesy in assuming that plans of battles are so.

The evidence of Colonel Lightfoot alone would establish the fact, that General Picton's right flank or right centre (it is useless to dwell on such distinctions, the argument is not affected by them) was not only exposed, but actually pierced by a force of the enemy, which Colonel Lightfoot de-

scribes as "*an attack in line supported by columns;*" the line consisting of "*at least two if not more regiments of tirailleurs preceding the columns, acting, also be it remembered, in as close order as the ascent and nature of the ground would permit.*"

Colonel Lightfoot describes the ascent of this force up the Sierra in these terms:—"I happen to be able to speak rather confidently of this attack, because I was on its flank—that is, near enough to pour a fire, by no means ineffectual, into the column as it *drew near the top of the hill*. for Colonel Meade having come from the right to inquire into the extent of my loss, I had requested permission from him to carry down the remainder of the four companies for the purpose of flanking the column on its ascent. Away I went, and, placing myself on the brow of a hollow that ran between the column and me, I opened a fire upon it, the men kneeling and concealing themselves among the bushes. Meanwhile the column appeared to be too much occupied in pushing the light troops before them in front to take much notice of us. Presently I saw the light troops driven over the ridge, and the next moment that ridge was crowned by tirailleurs firing vigorously from it."

Now, Mr. Editor, I would ask, was General Picton's right or right centre, or a part of that portion of the position entrusted to his defence, exposed or not exposed when an attack "*in line of at least two, if not more regiments, supported by columns,*" was enabled to ascend the face of the Sierra and crown the ridge without any check to their advance, being opposed only by light troops which were "*pushed before them;*" and by a flanking fire of "*the remainder of the four companies of the 45th, kneeling and concealing themselves among the bushes,*"—which fire, it appears from Colonel Lightfoot's statements, though by no means ineffectual, "the enemy did not take much notice of?"

Again, I would ask, Mr. Editor, was the third division on its right or right centre pierced or not pierced, the "*light troops being driven over the ridge, and the next moment that ridge crowned by tirailleurs firing vigorously from it;*" the tirailleurs acting also, "*be it remembered, in as close order as the ascent and nature of the ground would permit,*" being in line of "*at least two, if not more, regiments supported by columns?*"

"Be it remembered," also, Mr. Editor, that "*the ridge*" on which the tirailleurs in line of two regiments, "*at least,*" "*supported by columns,*" were established, overlooked, at the distance of, it might be, fifty yards, the road, running parallel to the crest of the Sierra, which afforded direct communication from the right to the left of the British position.

Colonel Lightfoot proceeds:—"When suddenly, without any reason apparent to me, the tirailleurs abandoned the ridge, poured down on the column, the column went to the right about, and both urged their course precipitately down the hill."

Thus ends the evidence as to the "*central attack,*" afforded by Colonel Lightfoot. He details the result of inquiries which he made as to this sudden abandonment of the ridge by a force "*in line of two regiments, at least, supported by columns,*" which had shown such obstinacy in their ascent as not to take "*much notice*" of the "*fire by no means ineffectual,*" which the Colonel was enabled to pour into its flanks, but his individual observation extends no further, although he again alludes incidentally to the "*extraordinary rapidity*" with which the French descended the hill.

From the sudden abandonment of the ridge without apparent cause, it might perhaps be imagined that the tirailleurs, in "*prudent discretion,*" had fled from their own shadows; but the Colonel tells us it happened about twelve o'clock, and if so (although I believe it to be much earlier) their shadows could not have been so very formidable.

Colonel Lightfoot, when he "*subsequently inquired into the circumstances,*" learned "that Major Smith of the 45th had been killed in leading the light troops back to the charge by a shot from the rocks; that

the fifth division, coming up at double-quick at the moment, had charged the enemy in the rocks, and that they, seeing so great a reinforcement, had fled without further resistance."

Major Smith, of the 45th, may have been killed in rallying the light troops, but certainly not simultaneously with the coming up of the fifth division. I again assert, that when the fifth division, headed by the 9th Regiment, came upon the ground, that not a red-coated soldier was to be seen: the Portuguese were flying in all directions in the utmost confusion, and the tirailleurs in unopposed possession of the ridge.

The fifth division never supported any body of light troops in any charge or in any attack; they certainly came "*up at double-quick*," and "*charged the enemy in the rocks*," but not at "*the moment*" when Major Smith of the 45th had been killed in leading back the light troops to the charge.

Be this as it may, Mr. Editor, and take as incontrovertible the information received by Colonel Lightfoot, and it is proved that the rapid descent of the French is owing to the coming up of the fifth division.

Up to the moment in which the fifth division (which had moved the greater part of the distance from their original ground in double-quick) had arrived, General Picton had, on the ground originally occupied by his division, "*a line of at least two, if not more, regiments supported by columns in possession of the ridge of the Sierra, overlooking the reverse of the ridge*," and commanding the road of communication, and clearing as a wedge the original position of the third division.

If this be not a practical illustration of the effects of exposing the flank of a division—if it be not what is commonly called *being turned* and *pierced*, it is difficult to imagine what is.

"Had not assistance, and British assistance, too, come up as it did," by the arrival of Leith's brigade, Colonel Lightfoot's account of the action would of itself incline "any unprejudiced person to believe that Sir Thomas Picton would have cut a very different figure in the dispatch to what he did."

This insulated truth cannot affect the well-merited renown of General Picton. His achievements are of too high an order: his faults, if he had any—his errors, if he committed any—are obscured and thrown far into the shade, by the glory of his career—the splendour with which it terminated.

I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,

J. CAMERON,

Lieut.-General, Colonel 9th Regt.

P.S.—The interesting details submitted by Colonel Lightfoot certainly show that there was something more in this attack on the left than had hitherto met the eye: the march up to the position in column of sections—the assertion that the 88th never fired a shot until they *closed* with the enemy—as also the charge round the rocks—are all new, and must greatly add to the curiosity of your readers to know more.

J. C.

Captain Jebb in reply to Colonel Napier.

MR. EDITOR.—As after the publication in your last Number of Colonel Napier's letter, and its accompaniments, silence on my part might be taken as an admission of the correctness of their contents, I once more feel called upon to address you.

Colonel Napier begins his letter by accusing me of writing "in a confused manner;" I see, however, no just ground assigned by him for such an accusation.

With respect to the misapplication of the word "inaccuracy," I do confess myself guilty; for, as Colonel Napier observes, "to express surprise is not an inaccuracy;" and although the surprise which Colonel

Napier did express at Colonel Clowes not becoming the controversialist; was stated to the public at a time when he *was in possession of the same* reason at which his "surprise ceases," and which reason was in part *supplied by himself* in the form of a warning to Colonel Clowes, still, to mark this point, the word "inaccuracy" does not properly apply.

To the decision of the public I willingly leave the question, whether I, as a subordinate officer, and acting under the orders of my superior, am, in the character of controversialist, "in the same predicament" as Colonel Clowes, from whom the "Exploits" (Colonel Napier's own word) referred to originated, and by whom they were directed.

Colonel Napier having given a qualified admission that his first letter to Colonel Clowes does not, "rigorously speaking," bear him out in his charge of "unfairness" against me, I shall say no more about it.

Colonel Napier says, to find offence in that passage of his work which follows in *immediate connexion* with the one relating to the 3rd Dragoons, viz.—"The flight waxed hot with the others, &c.," appears to him "rather a morbid acuteness" on my part. I will only remark that his *own* correction seems to imply that he himself considered the passage objectionable.

As the remaining part of Colonel Napier's letter is only declaratory of his determination, notwithstanding the *disinterested* testimony which has been produced against it, to maintain in its full force the offensive passage from which this discussion has emanated, and which has *been forced upon us by him*, and *not*, as he says, upon him by us, I shall neither repeat statements which have already been given, nor longer occupy your pages in replying to it.

To the letter in explanation from Colonel Brotherton, and to that in addition from Colonel White, as far as they are meant to impugn Colonel Clowes's statement, my former observations will apply, and equally so to the letter of Baron Osten, who has again come forward, at the request of Colonel Brotherton, to corroborate the following passage, which he before had omitted to do, viz.: "That General Alten expressed strongly his disapprobation at the 3rd Dragoons not advancing;" and although I am in possession of abundance of testimony in corroboration of every part of Colonel Clowes's statement, and in direct opposition to what these letters declare against it, I shall not, for the reasons formerly given, have recourse to it, but let the public who are already acquainted with the relative situation of the officers of the two corps, viz., those of the one having the enemy upon them, by whom they were repulsed, broken, dispersed, and in great peril; and those of the other advancing *voluntarily* for the purpose of rescuing them, and at whose approach the enemy fled; let, I say, the public judge, under such circumstances, whose testimony is most likely to be correct.

Colonel Brotherton says that General Alten could *not* on this occasion "consider the 3rd Dragoons under his command." It is, however, obvious that, although belonging to a different Brigade, and arriving independently, they would, upon joining, come under his immediate orders. That this was the fact is proved by the General's ordering them to halt, and not charge, and his subsequently ordering them to return to the station they had previously quitted.

I now only have to observe, that neither Colonel Clowes ~~nor the officers~~ serving under him have ever claimed the least merit for the part taken by the 3rd Dragoons in this affair on the Guarena. The consciousness of having performed a neighbourly act towards their brother soldiers in distress was of itself a sufficient satisfaction to them; and it was not the less so when effected at so trifling a loss, and acknowledged as it was by General Alten and Colonel Hervey. But if, in the course of this controversy, a highly distinguished and experienced cavalry officer has thought proper, whilst offering his testimony in support of their cause, to introduce expressions complimentary to the 3rd Dragoons on this, as well as on other

occasions, it has not been their seeking. Nevertheless, to my brother officers and myself, it is not a little gratifying, and will, we feel assured, not be overlooked by the public, into whose hands I most confidently consign our cause.

I remain, Sir, your much obliged,
D. G. JEBB, late Capt. 3rd Dragoons.

22nd May, 1838.

Strictures on the recent Debates in Parliament.

MR. EDITOR,—In reading the debate on the Marine question, I observe Mr. Hume, among others, laid great stress upon the disadvantage which that gallant and meritorious corps lie under in not being represented in Parliament—in not having “so many friends among the aristocracy as the other Services have.” The promotion of the Marines was at the same time compared with that of those officers who have since the Peace so rapidly risen in the army. Because many officers of the Line have had very rapid promotion, it is supposed that the Service has no cause to complain. Mr. Hume puts himself forward as a calculator, and he is reported to have said, in the debate in question,—“I have always been an advocate for economy; but I hold, Sir, that it is no economy to withhold from men who have done their duty honourably and efficiently to their country, that promotion and that pay to which they are justly entitled.” And then again he denounces the rapid promotion of the regular infantry.

One could hardly have supposed that it was necessary to explain to Mr. Hume that the same class of officers, without friends among the aristocracy, is to be found in the Line as is in the Marines; that promotion is even more unattainable for them than for their brethren of the Marines, who are at least assured of all the death or retirement vacancies which may fall in their corps; and for these officers of the Line there is no retirement whatever, except by the sale of their commission. After perhaps forty years’ service, and having reached the rank of Captain, this retirement amounts to the sum of eighteen hundred pounds. In 1823, when the Marine Captains were offered this retirement by the sale of unattached commissions, they very properly declined it.

Colonel Davis, in the debate on the Mutiny Bill, is reported to have said, that more commissions should be given to non-commissioned officers of ten or twelve years’ service. The Colonel would give these men a commission, and leave chance to do the rest. What real benefit is conferred upon such a man? He may, after serving twenty or five-and-twenty years more, when he has about thirty-five years’ service to reckon, retire from the army by the sale of his commission—a Lieutenancy, seven hundred pounds!

It is unfortunate for the Service that members of Parliament, who take the trouble to interfere in debates on military matters, will not further exert themselves to inquire into the particulars, and so assure themselves against the possibility of doing injustice to individuals.

There are certainly many Officers of the Line connected with aristocratic families, and both Houses of Parliament can show a numerous parade of military members; but these individuals as little represent the numerous class of officers to which I allude, as they do the interests of the Marines or of the New Police.

The Line officers have no retirement. In common justice, when an officer has served a certain number of years, he should be allowed to retire upon a certain pension; and this regulation should be drawn up on an increasing scale. The right to retire from the Service by the sale of his commission, where the individual has not purchased, should be abrogated; and all death and retirement vacancies should be filled without purchase.

I would beg Mr. Hume and other Members of Parliament to consider

this plan. I would ask them to inquire whether the charge made against the "regular infantry," of having had lately rapid promotion, was true or false. I feel confident that they will discover that a few monied individuals only have had the promotion spoken of, and that at the expense of old and service-worn officers, who have been passed over by men young enough to have been their sons.

Z. A. X.

April 5, 1838.

The Naval Medical Department.

MR. EDITOR,—Whoever considers the unwearied and successful efforts you have made in exposing the several imperfections of both Services, cannot fail to express their gratitude for your exertions, and to congratulate themselves upon having at least one friend, who, in the pursuit of a just and generous undertaking, is above all the paltry cavil of the ill-disposed and prejudiced, and who fearlessly demands redress for the grievances of the injured. It must be confessed, Sir, that the spirit with which your Journal has always been conducted, its fairness, its independence, its watchfulness over the interests of the very lowest officer, and, above all, its freedom from party feeling and party favour, have claimed for it a reputation and respectability for which every well-wisher to either Service, and lover of good order, must have reason to be thankful; the more so, as in many instances the sober and judicious improvements it has suggested have been considered and carried into effect by the Legislature, and I know not of a single instance where such improvements thus adopted by Government have ever failed in their beneficial effects. I feel a great deal of hesitation in adding to the list of important subjects now under consideration in the United Service Journal, by introducing to your notice the subject of my present letter; and, indeed, whenever I consider how much time and space you devote to correspondents, I almost question the propriety of taxing your generosity in this instance. But a false feeling of delicacy must not deter a man in the course of his duty. If he sees serious errors existing, and can demonstrate their evil tendency, he ought to exclaim against them; and if those errors, from their peculiar nature, escape the eye of general observance, that duty becomes doubly incumbent on him. Now, I think, Sir, you will allow, that the Medical Department of the Navy has never experienced that attention it deserves. That an efficient Medical Staff is essential to the well-being and comfort of either Service none can deny; indeed, of late years the Government seem to have been particularly sensible of this fact, as is obvious from their anxiety to procure the best appointed young men the profession could afford, which they have endeavoured to effect by demanding of all candidates even higher testimonials of education than required at any University or other medical board in Europe. If, therefore, so much anxiety has been shown to obtain this, its necessity is very evident; and if the necessity of having such well-informed men be allowed, it stands to reason that the department to which those officers belong is deserving of every consideration. I ask if it has ever received this public attention? No; in every age of our naval career, the welfare of this department has been sadly overlooked. Indeed, within a very few years, even in turning back to the early numbers of this Journal, the cheek glows with indignation, and the fine feelings of pride and honour which our profession inspires are acutely wounded at the mere recital of the indignities which the Naval Medical Officer from time to time experienced; yet even to this period their cries for justice and redress have remained unanswered and uncared for. I do not pretend to explain whether this neglect is studied or accidental; I only wish to establish the fact of its being quite unmerited, and not only injurious to that body of men in particular, but detrimental to the health, the strength,

and supremacy of our Naval power in general. It strikes me, however, that this slight may be in a great measure accounted for in the following way: 1st. That till within a very few years, Medical Officers were never thoroughly incorporated into the Naval Service, they were looked upon somewhat as intruders, as rather out of their own province, and only noticed as a favour and by sufferance. 2nd. That their pretensions to public notice have often been repulsed in two ways: thus, if they referred their grievances to any naval publication, and requested editorial remarks, they were advised, as a more regular course, to apply to some medical journal; but in this quarter they received no commiseration. What, exclaimed the grave and learned Editors, have we to do with cocked hats and epaulettes? They, forsooth, were shocked at the bare idea of meddling with such affairs; so that, having for many years been bandied about by all parties, their claims have been never heard—their present condition almost unknown—and, worse than all, a spirit of chagrin and indifference has sprung up amongst them, the effect of mortification and repeated neglect. Now, as to which of the two publications should advocate their cause, it appears to me that the duty equally belongs to both; and if you, Sir, as the Editor of this Journal, will, with your accustomed candour, reflect upon the importance of having well-appointed Surgeons in the Navy—more especially in war time, the interests of a whole fleet are concerned in it—I am sure, when you calmly consider all this, that no effort will be spared on your part to secure for them those advantages by which such qualifications may be gained. The grievances under which medical officers of the Navy labour are of a two-fold nature. In addition to those they experience in common with all other Naval officers, they have some which are peculiar to themselves. With the former I do not presume to interfere, viz., their pay, promotion, equipment, &c. I leave such matters in abler hands; but as to those which so heavily press on the medical officer only, I will endeavour to expose their nature, and the effects they are calculated to produce in the moral condition of that officer. In improvements of all kinds, the *fundamental* errors should be first corrected. It would be absurd to build a fine structure on a rotten foundation; and, on the same principle, if the general grievances were removed, and the medical officer participated in such a change, yet they would be of little benefit to him while his own peculiar troubles continued unredressed. His pay might be increased, and his promotion more justly regulated; but of what avail would all this be to the Assistant-Surgeon, if he be deprived of that grade to which he feels himself entitled, and which can alone secure to him respectability and comfort? In short, it is quite evident that a great deal of evil may be traced to the degraded position of the Assistant-Surgeon on board a man-of-war; that all his own troubles spring from this source, and much detriment to the Navy in general; and I think it is quite clear that his station in the cockpit is neither consistent with his habits and education, nor compatible with justice. At present this evil is more acutely felt, its deleterious effects upon medical science more obvious, and its injury to the happiness, the improvement, and future prospects of medical officers more conspicuous, than any other. It is the source of all his misery, the spring which, if suffered to flow, will poison every attempt at his amelioration. As, therefore, this evil is of such vital importance, I will confine my attention to it at present; let it be but corrected, and a good foundation will be established whereon to build future improvements.

I will, therefore, in as short a manner as possible, make a few statements and explanations, which I do not remember to have seen elsewhere; to all who have thoroughly considered this subject, they will not, perhaps, appear to be novel, for they must have struck most observers. But it looks very much, Mr. Editor, as if their Lordships were expecting a few such remarks to be made; perhaps they are mistaking the apathy and morose silence of the injured for ease and contentment; if, then, the long-endured injuries

and injustice of the Assistant-Surgeon are not of themselves sufficiently urgent and glaring to gain them clemency and notice, I beg, Sir, you will call upon every medical officer in the Service to come forward and expose their state to public view, in such true and faithful colours, that their civilian brethren may unite into a body and petition Parliament to remove such a stigma from their profession; whilst naval officers, foreseeing the approaching absence of all medical skill and knowledge (the consequence of such a state), may join the petition as a means of safety for their own personal security. But in all cases of alteration some men will ask questions; they will never give assent to changes unless they can see and judge for themselves as to their merit and pretensions. Such a course of proceeding is highly laudible, and such men cannot be too much respected. I only regret that such a plan has not been adopted in the present instance, for if there could be found one claim on the part of the Assistant-Surgeon which would not bear scrutiny, or if but one plausible objection could be urged against his becoming a ward room officer, I, for one, would abandon all claim to such a right, and submit most contentedly to the present arrangement.

It is asked, why should the Assistant-Surgeon, who has from time immemorial been a member of the cock pit, have higher pretensions in 1838? Why should the good old rule be departed from? Surely what was tolerable in 1700 must be equally so in this century! And more than all this, the practice has gained strength and sanction by its long continuance! I must confess that I am myself so attached to old institutions, that at first sight these appeared very just and natural inquiries; however, let us consider the case a little. Let us remember that when the Assistant-Surgeon was first placed in that position, he was a person having no pretensions to education or professional acquirements, he was viewed at that time in the light of an apprentice, and under the name of "surgeon's mate" actually learnt the rudiments of the art, but what is the fact now? Why, by a series of judicious regulations that individual has grown up to be a fully-qualified Surgeon, and before he can be admitted into the Navy must now produce testimonials of having received not only a good classical instruction, but one of the best medical educations our schools can bestow; so that the case stands thus, that the Assistant Surgeon has progressively advanced to the most perfect standard of professional qualifications, but still occupies the same degraded station on board a man-of-war, which he filled when totally devoid of these. In the former case it must be allowed that his treatment was suited to his condition, but in the latter instance it is surely neither just nor reasonable. But the same objectors argue that there must be a distinction between the Surgeon and Assistant, yes, Sir, most assuredly there must, strict discipline and distinction of rank are indispensable to the Service, but I ask, if the superiority of one class can be supported by the degradation of another—or can real discipline be preserved where injustice is so palpably evident? Now I think it must occur to every impartial observer, that if the Assistant Surgeon was advanced to a higher station on ship board, it would be quite consistent with propriety and discipline; and, indeed, we are not without a precedent, for the young marine officer is admitted at once into the ward room, and yet this officer has not half the pretensions to such a privilege as an Assistant-Surgeon, neither in the way of previous expense, study, or any other preparatory requisite. I can assure you, there is not a more galling thing to the feelings of the Assistant Surgeon than the admission of this unpretending officer to the ward-room, while he is himself excluded—it is at once such a marked insult, that it is quite surprising it should have been so long tolerated with any degree of forbearance and good grace, it is well known that many who have not been compelled by necessity to continue in the Service, have been so offended at this one circumstance, as to have left it in disgust.

Again, it is said that the condition of the Assistant Surgeon cannot really be so irksome as represented, since the candidates for admission into the Service are actually greater than the demand; but though such be the fact, we must take care not to put a wrong construction upon a case which, when properly viewed, is very satisfactorily explained. The fact is, that our profession is so completely overstocked, and the prospects of success in private practice so doubtful, that young men are glad to get employment in any way, and when we remember, that at the present time severe contests occur to obtain an appointment as surgeon to a district union under the new Poor law Act, where the medical man only receives from 80*l* to 100*l* a year to attend and provide medicine for more than 3000 people, we cannot be surprised that many would prefer the degradation of a man-of-war in the hope of speedy promotion, rather than be subjected to such hard treatment in their own country, so that the great number of candidates for admission into the Navy does not arise from any attraction in the Service itself, but rather from the choice of two evils, as they would prefer competency and degradation to poverty and idleness. However, I am happy to say that the Naval Service will soon stand alone in notoriety, for the medical faculty throughout the kingdom are making every exertion to rescue them both from the oppression and infamy of the poor law system.

First, Sir, what advantages are gained by placing the Assistant Surgeon in the cockpit? I can easily conceive its beneficial effect upon the Midshipman who is sent into the Navy at so early an age to him it is at once both a school of discipline and education, but does the Assistant Surgeon require such a schooling at twenty six years of age? I should hope rather that his own good breeding and finished education were a sufficient guarantee for officer like conduct to his superiors a pledge that he might constantly live with them, and yet lose none of his respect by familiarity. Respect is a reciprocal feeling it is developed in the bosom of the servant in proportion to the interest which the master shows in his welfare and advancement.

But, without advancing his age, or education, or feelings of degradation, or the studious nature of his profession, as claims for his advancement to the ward room, the matter will be an investigation as a point of equity. Let it always be borne in mind that the promotion of medical men in the Navy is always of a very limited degree, even more so than in the sister Service, a very few, indeed advancing beyond the rank of Surgeon. I fear this circumstance has never had its due weight with the Admiralty the existence of such restricted promotion ought, in point of justice, to have procured many privileges both to the Surgeon and his Assistant by way of compensation, but such never have been granted. To all other naval officers the highest honours and emoluments of the Service are open, his abilities and good conduct may at all times be rewarded, his ambition boundless, his expectations ever bright but not so with the medical officer, his emoluments and ambition terminate with his first and only promotion, he may be ever so talented and meritorious, yet no preferment waits to declare his excellence.

Now, when this disparity between the two classes of officers is considered, I presume every candid person will allow that it is a very unjust and cruel arrangement, to place the Assistant Surgeon, after all his expense and toil in study, and having such restrictions to his promotion, on the same footing with the lowest officer of the quarter deck, who is yet quite a lad, ignorant of his profession, but having no such limits set to his future advancement.

Now, as to the moral detriment likely to accrue to the Assistant Surgeon by occupying a situation which he feels so utterly unworthy of him, it does not require much shrewdness to foresee that man, indeed, must be possessed of a very strong moral and religious principle, who can suppress those rising passions which a sense of injury and unmerited disre-

spect are calculated to produce; seeing his own interests abandoned by those who should most carefully preside over them, he at last becomes indifferent to them himself; and having no encouragement or opportunity afforded him for study, he not only fails to keep pace with modern improvements, but cannot even retain his academical instruction. How seriously all this must affect the strength and health of our naval force is very manifest; but I fear a more serious injury is often inflicted upon the unhappy victim himself in contracting those habits which the weakness of human nature suggests for the relief of his wretched mind.

To every reflecting person, it is quite evident this state of things cannot last long: there must be a change, and that a speedy one, or the character of the Naval medical department will be irreclaimably lost.

I suppose, Sir, in this economical age, it would be of little use to suggest improvements unless brought about in a cheap way. Well, it is certainly the wisest plan to conform to circumstances. The Treasury is too securely locked and bolted now-a-days to be attacked with any hope of success; we must give up that idea at present: but, I trust, never while we have one gentlemanly feeling left, and a consciousness of the respect due to ourselves and our profession, shall we weary in seeking redress for the Assistant-Surgeon. We must do this respectfully, yet earnestly; an injury may be endured without complaining, but when insult is added to it, the most spiritless and forbearing become indignant. As economy is the order of the day, I suggest the following plan:—Let the Assistant-Surgeon be immediately made a ward-room officer. He will want no increase of pay, which is already equal to that of a Lieutenant, and quite enough for the expenses of the mess. He expects nothing more than this simple change; let this be but accomplished, and it will act like a charm upon all his miseries. The gold lace on his coat will appear twice as broad; and though he may not be honoured with an epaulette, yet he will feel that a restoration to his proper rank in society is of more value to him than the possession of all these trifles.

In conclusion, I beg to say a few words on the advantage of this change:—1st. The situation would be sought after by the most respectable and talented young men. 2nd. If the Assistant-Surgeon should not, unfortunately, be promoted for several years, still he is comfortably and respectably situated. 3rd. His subordinate rank might be very beneficially prolonged to five or six years, instead of three. 4th. He would be enabled to prosecute the study of his profession and various branches of science, thus becoming a more valuable servant to the public.

Now, that all these advantages will follow is no assertion, let everybody judge for themselves, and see their certainty; and when it is remembered that all this will follow from the mere grant of a claim backed by the pleadings of humanity and rectitude, without any additional expense to the nation, surely it is highly deserving the regard of Government. The limits of a letter are much too small to contain half that might be said in confirmation of the above remarks, nor, indeed, can I, with any decency, encroach longer on your space; but I conclude, Sir, by most earnestly recommending the case of the Assistant-Surgeon to your attention and support.

I remain, Mr. Editor, &c. &c.

W. M. B.

** We think the foregoing temperate and persuasive reflections well worthy the consideration of the Commission on Enquiry.—Ed.

Officers' Widows' and Orphans' Pensions.

MR. EDITOR,—Embracing as it does nearly every subject interesting to the Naval and Military Service, it has been a matter of surprise that widows' and orphans' pensions have not been more prominently discussed in the pages of the United Service Journal. At the beginning of a new

reign—our Sovereign a woman—every reform possible promised—a subject so interesting to the two Services might advantageously have a few pages dedicated to it so as to draw attention in the proper quarter.

First, from what fund do these pensions proceed, and by what regulation is it guided? Does it proceed from military sources? if so, why not allowed to widows whose husbands have received pensions for wounds till their death? Has that fund been taken from (as reported) for other purposes?

A complete mystery has ever hung over these subjects to the greater part of the Army, and you cannot do a greater service to all those interested, as husbands, fathers, or brothers, than by stating in your valuable work how the matter actually stands.

An officer on selling out, if maimed, receives for his wife's lost pension no more than the single man. The veterans have been greatly the sufferers: entitled to full-pay for life, they received no compensation for this, although their wounds continued them pensions. Certainly no greater hardship exists than that the widows of such officers (receiving pensions) should at their death be deprived of every tittle of this small pension.

It must be taken in consideration, that the greater the service and the number of wounds the more the impossibility of an *assurance of life* in favour of the unfortunate survivor, who may have spent her little all of fortune in the changes of a military life.

When a great personage, some years back, came down to the House to propose a diminution of these pensions, and, like the Prophet, although he came to curse, blessed by a new clause in favour of second marriages, this latter argument was allowed to have full weight.

No doubt can arise in the writer's mind of the good effect of such mention in the United Service Journal.

H. S.

** We have been for a long while contemplating a paper especially devoted to this subject, which uncontrollable circumstances have hitherto delayed.—ED.

Accidents to Ships from Lightning.

MR. EDITOR,—Perceiving, by your last number, that the commercial marine is not thought unworthy of your notice, I beg to observe to you that you may confer a great benefit on that marine, as well as on the cause of humanity, by calling the attention of some of your scientific nautical readers to the frequency, in modern times, of ships being struck by lightning, with a view to inquire if such accidents are not increased and encouraged by the great use of iron in the rigging, without having complete conductors to carry the electric matter clear of the ship.

The first remarkable instance within immediate recollection was the narrow escape of our gallant Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin and his fellow-passengers, in the American ship *Boston*, since when hardly a year passes without the loss of two or three ships and cargoes burnt by lightning.

In the month of March three ships arrived here in one week, that had been on fire during their passages, ignited by lightning. The case of the ship *Orvieto*, from New Orleans, was a very remarkable one, from the effects of the electric fluid on the compass as well as the chronometer of that ship. Since then we have heard of the *Ruthelin* being burnt by lightning.

I am, Sir, your

Liverpool, April 26, 1838.

CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.

Promotion by Merit versus Promotion by Purchase.

MR. EDITOR,—In reply to certain of your correspondents, who advocate a scale of promotion by "merit" (and, consequently, who deprecate the

"system of purchase"), I beg to forward to you the following few queries and remarks, should you think them worthy of insertion in your able Journal.

In the first place, I contend that every person who finds fault with a system "in use" is morally bound to suggest a better, and not only a "theoretical one," but a system that will "work."

Now, supposing the scheme of promoting officers for "merit alone" was to be adopted, let us look to a few of its details. The admirers of such a system will find plenty of candidates, I am confident (and proud, too, am I, as a British officer, to say it); but will these gentlemen be pleased to tell us, by what means it is proposed to cause the requisite vacancies, especially during a twenty years' peace, so as to afford any encouragement whatever to extra merit? Are the seniors of merit to be dismissed the Service in rotation?

Seriously, if merit is considered to be best rewarded by regimental promotion, the simplest plan would be to provide a fund for enabling meritorious officers, who have no money, to purchase in their turns! This would do all the good required, without doing that injury to the Service generally, that I am confident the abolishing purchase would inflict upon it; and among the minor advantages of the system, the power which it affords to the Commander-in-Chief of permitting old and meritorious officers who may not have purchased, perhaps, a single commission, to sell out after twenty-one years' service, should not be lost sight of. It is an important boon to the old and deserving officer, and it removes sooner from the service worn-out and inefficient people, diminishing the half-pay list without the slightest increase of expense to the public—and thus the Service, the public, and the old officer are benefited equally. Nor do I perceive by what logic a sum of money, or a particular amount of income, is able to qualify persons to be legislators, to make laws for all professions and grades, more than to fit persons to be Captains, or Majors, or Colonels. Really, I am thinking the having laid out one's money upon a good appointment is rather an extra guarantee that the holder will strive to do his duty more effectually, lest by improper conduct he should risk the loss of both his money and appointment. Why, Sir, the very promoting officers over the heads of their seniors for merit would be virtually telling the latter that they are ignorant fellows. This could not fail of causing dissatisfaction throughout the corps—no trifle to its discipline, as every soldier knows.

Most people will admit that another is richer than himself, as it carries no moral reproof; but people (even the wisest) are naturally shy of admitting superior merit in others, and, least of all, in their own juniors (except, of course, in very extraordinary cases). But when a man is purchased over, he can easily console himself that he has his share of merit, and that his poverty is alone to blame; and when a man's conscience or feelings once become satisfied, he is the sooner resigned to all annoyances.

Finally, I must remark upon the observation, in absence of all direct proof, "that the most eligible appointments (or, indeed, promotion) are bestowed upon officers who are decidedly and notoriously unfitted for them." It is more charitable—nay, it is strict justice, I think, to take it for granted that they have not been improperly conferred, and that at least some merit or other has not been wanting. It does not require any great stretch of the imagination for this. The disappointed expectant has only got to think with Themistocles, and rather to rejoice, that there are 3000 or 4000 cleverer (or as clever) men in the British Army than himself: in short, to believe (and to feel proud and delighted while he so believes) that there really are more officers of merit in the Service than the military authorities are able to find appointments for.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Editor, most faithfully yours,
Brighton, April, 1838.

W. D. B.

The Royal Navy and the Merchant Marine.

MR. EDITOR,—I have been a subscriber to your Journal from its commencement, and have felt that your anxious endeavours have been to elevate in the mind of all classes the Service to which they may chance to belong. I am, therefore, surprised that any of your correspondents, particularly one who professes to have in view “the raising our seamen in their own estimation,” should have the bad taste to differ from you in what, in my opinion, is most essential, and that which has tended to raise the character of your Journal to its present height.

In your April number, page 461, your correspondent, “C. B.,” when treating on some alterations which he thinks would be judicious, but of the expediency of which, notwithstanding what he asserts, I, for one, beg to dissent (and I believe most officers who recollect what occurred in the earlier part of the war will agree with me), observes, that those alterations would “induce the said Jack still more to look down on those *d—d fellows the traders.*”

Now, Mr. Editor, what possible good can such observations produce, either afloat or on shore? Are we not all links of the same chain? and on the breaking out of a war, is not our Navy much benefited by “those *d—d fellows the traders?*” Again, have not our traders on shore always shown a strong desire to foster and encourage our Army and Navy by the means more peculiarly in their power, viz., subscriptions in aid of objects for their benefit? Witness the Patriotic Fund, and many others. Therefore, Sir, let me beg of you to tell your correspondent, “C. B.,” what I am sure you feel, that the best way to serve his country is to do all in his power to soften and not to irritate, and to recollect that a spoonful of oil does more good than a quart of vinegar.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Woolwich, May 8, 1838.

J. C.

Pensions on Retirement.

MR. EDITOR,—You have frequently manifested your sympathising feeling, and sound judgment, in publishing letters from your various correspondents (adding also additional weight thereto by your own valuable remarks) on the great length of service of many officers in the British Army. But as I do not consider “the authorities who govern us” have viewed the subject in its proper light, I cannot refrain from bringing it again under your notice, feeling confident there is no better method of appealing to their feelings, as well as to the good sense of the members of the two houses of Parliament, the greater part of whom would, I trust, willingly approve of any measure brought forward for the benefit of the old officers, either of the Navy or the Army.

Amongst all the errors attributed to the Ministers at the period of the Peninsular campaign, I have never heard the selection of his Grace the Duke of Wellington brought forward against them, and I shall, therefore, take his age as a fair criterion of the time of life at which an officer can reasonably be expected to be corporeally as well as mentally fit for the performance of arduous military duties. When the Duke of Wellington assumed the command of the troops in the Peninsula he was about forty years of age; and after the glorious battle of Waterloo, when he so gallantly finished his active military career (by leaving nothing further to be done), his age was about forty-six.

I shall next instance the age of the officer who served under his Grace in command of that corps, which (next to the Royal Marines) is blighted with the slowest promotion, viz.: Sir Alexander Dickson, whose predecessors in command of the Royal Artillery having returned to England (several of them being incapacitated by age and bodily infirmities for the fatigues of their arduous employment in the Peninsula), he was, although

only a Captain, appointed by the Duke of Wellington to the important command of the British and Portuguese Artillery. Right nobly did this artillerist prove how well adapted he was to be the directing organ of that branch of the Service, on the efficiency of which the fate of battles so much depends.

Sir A. Dickson's age at that time being about thirty-five, and the Duke of Wellington not considering it necessary to send to England for a farther supply of veteran officers, we may, I think, fairly conclude thirty-five ought to be about the age for those officers from whom good and active service can with justice be looked for.

Against the age of these two valuable officers let us contrast that of the very efficient officers at present senior in their respective ranks in the Artillery.

First-Lieutenant	40 years of age.
Second-Captain	47
First-Captain	50 „ „
Lieutenant-Colonel	58 „ „
Colonel-in-Second	61 „ „
Colonel	Beyond all remark.

Now I confidently appeal to the most violent of our political economists, and demand whether the country can expect their military servants, with such ages in their relative ranks, to perform "good and faithful service?" The latter they will do generally, for the fire of military enthusiasm, though almost extinguished, burns bright to the last; but how can they perform good service? In the event of a war, however, they may, and sure am I they will, joyfully do their best to prove their zeal for that corps in which the chief part of their lives has been spent.

Cannot the evil of this stagnant promotion be rectified?—or is the poverty of the British Government so great, that it cannot afford to keep up a corps of officers, available for any duty beyond that of mounting guard, or moving from a home to a foreign station, on arriving at which they are called upon to perform those garrison duties which have become monotonous and wearisome, in consequence of the number of years the officers have passed in the one rank?

In case, Sir, you should deem these remarks worthy a place in your valued publication, I shall now beg leave to suggest a proposition, which, in the event of no better boon being granted to officers of long service, would, I think, be advantageous both to the country and the Army generally.

There being but very few soldiers in any regiment whose service much exceeds twenty years, I cannot be considered extravagant in proposing that an officer's service should be taken at thirty years (ten abroad and twenty at home); at the expiration of which period he ought to become entitled to a retiring pension equivalent to the full pay of his rank. To perfect this proposal for the amelioration of the Army, I have only further to recommend that those officers, who are not efficient for all duties, should be obliged to accept retiring pensions instead of remaining in their regiments to the detriment of more active and useful officers, and to the manifest injury of the Service.

In conclusion, I am anxious to undeceive those, who inconsiderately imagine that a brevet confers a great benefit on regimental officers. This is far from being the case; it is, of course, advantageous, for the time, to those officers who are promoted by the vacancies caused thereby; but, as in the Artillery, at least, the Colonels promoted to Generals return to the corps to command battalions, the brevet virtually is of no permanent advantage to the officers from Lieutenant-Colonels downwards.

Fervently trusting that, if this letter does not persuade those who are gifted with the power to benefit the corps of Artillery, as well as the rest of the Army in the manner proposed, it will, at least, be the means of

inducing officers of influence to exert themselves manfully in advocating the cause of the veteran officers of the British Army.

I remain, Mr. Editor,
Your constant reader, and sincere well-wisher,

PORTFIRE.

An airy subject giving rise to a WEIGHTY point.

MR. EDITOR,—In a letter I addressed to you, stating the discovery of a principle by which *balloons* might be *navigated* in the air, it was incidentally observed that our North American colonies were cut out of the globe carried by Atlas, in order that it might rest securely on his *shoulders*; but having since seen in an amusing article on "Nautical Superstition," which appeared in your last Number, that the part alluded to was cut out to admit the *busprit*, I am inclined to think the clever and intelligent writer is correct, although it may puzzle either of us to explain how a geographical or terrestrial, or indeed any but a *celestial* globe, came to be placed on the shoulders of Atlas.

WM RICKETTS.

March 10.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PRINCIPAL PORTS AND STATIONS.

Portsmouth, May 1, 1838

MR EDITOR,—Lord Durham, his family, and suite, with a numerous retinue, sailed from Spithead on the 24th of April, in her Majesty's ship *Hastings*, for Quebec, accompanied by the steam-frigate *Dee* and the Charybdis brigantine. His Lordship and suite were taken off in the Admiralty steamer *Lightning*, and got away about 2 P.M. There was not any salute from the garrison or ships, either on quitting the town or going on board the ship. The *Dee* was detained a few hours after in consequence of grounding on the edge of the Spitbank, while working through the Swash to take the *Hastings* in tow, occasioned by the strong tide and her detention in harbour to have some work finished by the shipwrights of the Dockyard, which was not completed until half ebb, she was, however, got off about 9 P.M. without experiencing any damage, and within an hour after proceeded on her voyage, and joined the Commodore about midnight. The *Hastings*, *Dee*, *Charybdis*, *Messenger*, and *Lightning* steamers, kept company until about five in the morning of the 25th April, when the wind having freshened, and being perfectly fair, they made sail, but it was soon evident that the *Dee* could not keep up with the *Hastings*, and at 10 A.M., when off the Start, the *Hastings* discharged her pilot into the *Lightning*, and ordered her to communicate to the Commander of the *Dee* that they could not wait for her, and very shortly after they separated, the *Dee* being desired to make the best of her way to Cape Breton. Subsequently her Majesty's ship *Andromache*, 28, Captain R. L. Baynes, C.B., has gone from hence, also to Quebec, taking out a company of the 24th Regiment from Gosport; she was followed in a few days by the *Medea* steam frigate, having on board another company of the same regiment. The *Andromache* is afterwards to go to the West Indies. The *Medea* will probably, with the *Dee*, be kept up the St. Lawrence during the summer, to attend on Lord Durham, and execute any extraordinary service he may wish performed. The ships that take out troops either to return to England, or join Vice Admiral Sir Charles Paget's squadron. The *Hercules* has made a trip to Halifax with troops. The *Edinburgh*, on her return to Portsmouth, will take in her lower-deck guns, and resume her station in

the *Tagus*; unless more troops are to be sent out. The *Vestal* is to relieve the *Rainbow*; *Pique* and *Inconstant* will be employed a short time on the North American station in moving soldiers, &c. The *Madagascar*, 46, with a new Captain, P. P. Wallis, having been taken in dock, had a new main and mizen mast, and repaired where requisite, sailed on the 4th of May to Gibraltar, to take two companies of the 73rd Regiment to Quebec, being that part of the regiment which her Majesty's ship *Talavera* could not comfortably accommodate. The *Thalia* spoils the *Talavera* on the 29th of April, nineteen days from Gibraltar.

The *Bellerophon*, 80, now commanded by Captain C. J. Austen, has also been docked, newly coppered, and supplied with a new foremast and bowsprit, and on the 11th of May went to Plymouth, on her way to Malta, to resume her station in the Mediterranean squadron, taking out about 500 bags of biscuit for the use of the fleet.

The *Modeste*, corvette, and *Lily*, 16-gun brig, have had another trial-cruise, in which the *Lily* is reported to be the swiftest, but the *Modeste* the best man-of-war. The *Lily* sailed on the 2nd of May for Rio Janeiro, taking out Sir Gore Ousley and suite, who has been appointed Secretary of Legation to the Court of Brazil, in lieu of Mr. Hamilton; also Lieutenant T. F. Birch, R.N., going to take the command of her Majesty's ship *Wizard*, on the South American station, in place of Lieutenant Harvey, deceased. The *Modeste* is still at Spithead, ready for any service that may be required, and will very shortly go to the Cape of Good Hope, and be placed under the orders of her projector, Rear-Admiral the Hon. Geo. Elliot.

The *Cruiser*, 16, Commander King, has been here from Chatham, and since gone to the East Indies. She was delayed for want of petty officers and seamen, who were at that time most scarce, but now plentiful, in consequence of three or four ships returning from abroad.

The *Termagant*, brigantine, has been rigged, had got stores on board, and was reported ready to go out of the basin, and intended to have been at Spithead this day, fit for sea; but last week it was determined that an alteration should be made in the position of her masts, and they have been unstepped, and nearly all the work is to be done over again, and considerable expense incurred. The mainmast is to be moved one foot forward, and the foremast to be placed nearly three feet further aft, to enable a long gun to be worked freely, and the sails to hold a better wind and be more compact. The *Termagant* is to be made like the *Griffon*, a brig found to answer very well on the coast of Africa, when commanded by Lieutenant (now Commander) Parlbv. She will not be ready for a fortnight.

The *Arrow*, ketch, is very nearly ready, and is to be sent to South America, and her commander (Lieutenant B. J. Sullivan) is to be employed under the orders of the Commodore of the *Stag*, to complete the survey of the various creeks and harbours of the Falkland Islands.

Rear-Admiral Sir T. Briggs, G.C.M.G., having been relieved in the Superintendentship of Malta Dockyard by Captain Sir John Louis, Bart., returned to England in her Majesty's ship *Portland*, on the 23rd of April, and in a few days after struck his flag. The *Portland* called at Gibraltar and Lisbon on her way home, but did not bring any news. In consequence of three or four of the Lisbon squadron being at present employed in conveying troops to Canada, the *Portland* was ordered to the *Tagus* to remain until the *Edinburgh* returned from Quebec, but her masts being defective, she was subsequently ordered to be paid off at Plymouth, and the *Russell* having arrived from Gibraltar, she was filled with stores and despatched to Lisbon in her place. The *Minden*, one of Sir John Ommaney's squadron, has since returned from Bermuda, and will go to the *Tagus* again.

On the 1st of May, the *Maitland*, transport, arrived from Jamaica with the head-quarters (consisting of about 300) of the 84th Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Nicholl; they had a very long and bad passage home, of eight weeks, during which they lost the agent, Lieut-

nant J. Barber, who died at sea. The Numa, transport, is on her way to England with the remainder of the corps, and may be hourly looked for, having quitted Jamaica on the 31st of March. The 84th Regiment has been upwards of thirteen years abroad, and during that period lost nearly 1000 men. There are not seventy of those who originally quitted England in the regiment returned. They are at present quartered at Gosport, and occupy Haslar and Forton barracks, and, when the other companies arrive, will be inspected by Major-General Sir Thomas M'Mahon, the Lieutenant-Governor, and moved into the quarters at Portsmouth, now used by the second battalion of the Rifle Brigade, as the latter are to be in London at the coronation.

The Portland and Maitland were the only foreign arrivals up to the 18th instant, owing to the prevalence of strong east winds, which have been blowing for the last month, and retarded the progress of all vessels up the Channel. The wind, however, shifted to south-west, and on the 18th and 19th instant enabled the following to get into Spithead, viz.:—Dublin, 50, Captain Tait, from South America, with the flag of Vice-Admiral Sir G. E. Hamond, Bart., K.C.B.; Thalia, 46, Captain Wauchope, with the flag of Rear-Admiral Sir P. Campbell, K.C.B., from the Cape of Good Hope; Rainbow, 28, Captain Bennett, from the West Indies; and Childers, 18, Captain the Hon. H. Keppel, from the coast of Africa. Dublin, Rainbow, and Childers went into harbour last Saturday. The following accounts have been obtained from them:—

Dublin. The President, with the flag of Rear-Admiral Ross, C.B., having arrived at Rio on the 19th of February, Sir G. E. Hamond made his arrangements for giving up the command of the squadron to that officer, and on the 1st of March the President sailed for the Pacific to relieve Commodore Sullivan at Valparaiso, and send the Stag to Rio Janeiro. On the 15th of March the Dublin quitted Rio, leaving there the Reindeer packet and American frigate Independence. On her passage to Bahia she spoke the Wizard, coming down with dispatches from Captain Broughton, of the Samarang, announcing the capture of Bahia by the Imperialists, under the orders of Marshal Callado, after a sanguinary conflict of three days. The Dublin got to Bahia on the 22nd of March, and remained until the 25th, leaving the Samarang, Sparrowhawk, Sappho, French frigate, Fairfield American corvette, and about eight or ten Brazilian ships to protect the property of those who did not interfere in the revolution. Matters being quiet, the Dublin left Bahia on the 25th of March, and arrived at Spithead on Thursday, but did not communicate with any ship until she neared the entrance of the English Channel, when she spoke the Gilmore and Boyne homeward-bound East Indian ships. Mr. Beecroft, Master of the President, came home in her, being invalided, and she had a small freight of about 6000*l.* in gold. The squadron were disposed of as follows:—Stag and Imogene at Valparaiso; Cleopatra at Mexico and on the coast, collecting freight for England; Harrier and Basilisk at the Intermedios; Rover daily expected, and the next ship for England with the Mexican freight; Fly at Callao; Sparrow, cutter, had been to the Falkland Islands, and returned to Rio, but again despatched thither by the Admiral. The Sulphur and Starling were employed on the survey of the Sandwich Islands. The vacancy in the Wizard, occasioned by the death of Lieutenant Harvey, has been given to Mr. Tatham, mate of the Dublin, and he has in consequence been confirmed to the rank. Vice-Admiral Sir G. E. Hamond struck his flag on Friday, and repaired to London to report his proceedings to the Admiralty. The Dublin was first fitted at Plymouth, and would no doubt have been ordered thither to be paid off, but having arrived with only six or seven days' provisions and about sixty tons of water, she was signalled to go into harbour, and be put out of commission at this port, and is now unrigging and returning stores for that purpose.

Thalia. Rear-Admiral Sir P. Campbell was relieved in the command of

the African Squadron by Rear-Admiral the Hon. George Elliot on the 8th March, he having arrived at Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, on the previous day, in H.M.S. Melville. The *Thalia* quitted Simon's Bay on the 13th March, St. Helena 26th March, and Ascension 4th April, and arrived at Spithead on Saturday. The *Fair Rosamond*, with a detained Portuguese brig, and the *Raven*, surveying vessel, were at Ascension. The latter was to return to England on the *Ætna* joining from the coast. On the 29th April, the *Thalia* communicated with H.M.S. *Talavera* in lat. $28^{\circ} 10' N.$ long. $41^{\circ} 47' W.$, being then nineteen days from Gibraltar, bound to Halifax with the 73rd Regiment on board. The following Queen's vessels are stationed on the west coast of Africa:—*Pelican*, *Pylades*, *Saracen*, *Viper*, *Curlew*, *Scout*, *Dolphin*, *Water Witch*, *Forester*, and *Fair Rosamond*; *Bonetta* had gone to the Cape; *Leveret* was on the east coast of Africa. During the period of Admiral Sir P. Campbell's service on the coast, the squadron, between October, 1834, and March, 1838, have taken 57 vessels, having on board upwards of 19,000 slaves. They have also seized and condemned 29 vessels without any on board, having the fittings for the traffic, which brought them under the equipment article in the Spanish Treaty of June, 1835. Still the slave-trade is carried on with great success, but chiefly under the Portuguese flag. The *Thalia* was at the island of Ascension three days. Great quantities of turtle had been taken, and about 150*l.* worth sold on behalf of Government to the merchant shipping.

Captain Bate, R.M., is still in charge of the island, having a population of 230 souls, including women and children. First Lieutenant Caleb Barnes had succeeded Captain H. Evans as Island Adjutant, and Second Lieutenant Noble relieved First Lieutenant Maltby, who came passenger in the *Thalia*. There was about 1300 tons of water in the tanks, but the cattle and vegetables were suffering for want of rain. The *Thalia* spoke several merchant-ships on her passage to England. The Admiral struck his flag on Sunday, and has also gone to London to report his proceedings to the Admiralty. The ship being originally fitted at Chatham, has been ordered thither to be paid off.

Rainbow. This 28-gun ship, commanded by Captain Thomas Bennett, has been in commission upwards of four years, and employed all that time on the North American and West India stations. In consequence of having an unusually long passage of sixty-four days from Jamaica, she had not a particle of news to communicate, the packet and several merchant-vessels having quitted that island since she did, and brought all the information respecting the shipping to a much later date. The *Rainbow* encountered such bad weather, and met so much delay, that the Captain was compelled to resort to the novel circumstance for a man-of-war, of obtaining a small supply of provisions from two merchant-vessels, and H.M.S. *Hercules* and *Minden*, which she spoke on her voyage. (See Postscript for further accounts of this ship). She being originally fitted at this port, is ordered to be paid off in the harbour, and went for the purpose on Saturday.

Childers, 16, Captain the Hon. H. Keppel. The arrival of this brig at Spithead is a matter of great and heartfelt joy to many, as reports were current that she had been upset off the Gambia in a squall, and every one perished. On her going into harbour on Saturday, crowds of persons assembled to see her, all, more or less, interested in her safe return to port. The *Childers* has been in commission about four years, and in that time her Commander has been promoted to his post-rank. The brig was first sent to the Mediterranean, and afterwards to the coast of Africa, and employed some distance from the Commander-in-Chief of the squadron, and out of the way of communicating with other ships: hence the unfavourable reports which got into circulation of her loss, and felt more particularly in this place, where she was fitted and manned. The

Childers left Ascension on the 2nd April, two days before the *Thalia*, but did not get into Spithead more than ten hours before her. The *Scout* was ordered up to the Cape from the bight of Benin, the *Pylades* having gone thither to relieve her. The *Pelican* was cruising in the bight. Orders have been in the port for some months to pay the Childers off on her return to England, and she has begun dismantling and returning stores for that purpose. The *Dublin*, *Rainbow*, and *Childers* have been mustered and inspected by Admiral Sir Philip Durham, the Commander-in-Chief, as is customary on ships returning from foreign service; and that the seamen may not quit the place, it is expected some ships will be ordered to be put in commission for them to join.

The *Winchester*, from the East Indies, with the flag of Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir T. B. Capel, and the *Wolf* and *Zebra*, from the same station, with several vessels from different parts of the globe, are expected, and will most probably be at Spithead before my next communication is forwarded.

There are not any vessels fitting at the port, except the *Termagant* and *Arrow*; but the *Herald* and *Actæon* post-ships are ready for commission, and will, doubtless, have officers appointed to them before the end of the month.

The *Royal George* yacht is still in dock undergoing very extensive repairs and internal decoration, under the expectation that the Queen may think proper to use her during the summer. Little or nothing has been done to her for fifteen or sixteen years; consequently, when the workmen commenced, it was discovered that her defects were more important than first imagined. The gilding and ornamental work in the cabins have been newly done up; a large supply of modern furniture is to be put on board, and, when hauled out of dock and fit for service, will be worth seeing. Her tender, the *Pantaloon*, is in harbour ready for sea, and is to go to the north coast of Spain with stores for the squadron, and a few marines to fill up the vacancies which occur in the battalion.

The *Revenge*, 78, will be the next ship of the line at this port to be taken out of dock. She has been extensively repaired. The *Warspite*, 74, was to have been cut down to a fourth-rate, provided her timbers had proved sound; but the contrary being the case, and reports to that effect being made to the Admiralty, it is expected she will be broken up and sold.

Measures are taking to raise the wreck of the *Pincher* schooner, still lying near the *Owers*. The dockyard authorities have sent out lighters and other craft; and when the *Messenger* steamer returns to the port, and the weather is sufficiently moderate, they will endeavour to weigh her. It is remarkable that not one body has ever been picked up which could with confidence be said to belong to her. Very few spars have been brought to the dockyard, and no authentic account of the exact number of persons who were unfortunately lost in her has been published. The statement you had was from the last muster-book, but it was afterwards understood there were five women and six children also on board.

The Major-General of the district has recently inspected and reviewed most of the troops in this garrison and Gosport, and expressed himself to be well satisfied with their military appearance, discipline, and orderly conduct. He also praised them for their spirited and active exertions in rendering assistance at the conflagrations which have occurred in the neighbourhood. We wish those who benefit by the exertions of the troops would do more than bestow empty praise for the same, and, when the men have been slaving like brickmakers, give them some moderate refreshment. During the last fire, some of the fatigue-parties were at work from midnight to noon next day, without the proprietor of the property, who was fully insured, offering them anything to eat or drink. Persons would be much annoyed if in future the troops were only ordered to guard property from

plunder, and not *work* at the engines. Another matter ought also to be made public. There have been three serious fires in the neighbourhood of the garrison during the present month; and our motive for alluding to them is merely to state, that on all the occasions the navy and military have vied with each other in hastening to render assistance, without consideration of fatigue or destruction of uniform. A number of men have had their clothes, shoes, &c., burnt or destroyed in their praiseworthy exertions, but we have not had an instance of one of the Insurance Offices offering to replace to the men what has been destroyed in preserving property. It is to be hoped that a hint will be conveyed to some of the Directors, that a few sovereigns expended in the shape of a renewal of clothing and soldiers' necessaries, when totally spoilt on occasions of fire, would act as an additional stimulus to soldiers to work with greater energy when they know their losses are to be made good, such losses being of serious importance to them, but most trifling to the Insurance Offices, whose money they are saving. It is probable the matter has never been brought under the notice of the Directors, as the Commanding Officers of corps would not think of doing it. The last two fires in the island of Portsea were very serious ones, took considerable time and trouble to extinguish, and we know of three or four men who had their uniform jackets, &c. &c., totally destroyed by fire, mud, and water, and they have been compelled to restore them as they best could.

The following alterations and movements are about to take place among the troops in this garrison and Gosport:—The *depôt* of the 5th Fusiliers is to go to Dublin; the 47th to Guernsey; the 90th to Chatham; and the 2nd Battalion of the Rifles to London, or the neighbourhood, during her Majesty's Coronation. The 84th Regiment will be brought over from Gosport, and occupy the quarters which the Rifles now do; and the *depôts* of the 18th Royal Irish, 67th, and 2nd Battalion of the 60th, are to take the places of those which quit, and, with the 89th and 24th *depôts*, form the garrison of Portsmouth and Gosport.

The mathematical examination of Midshipmen is still continued in the Dockyard, in the building which was formerly the Naval College. They are examined by a gentleman formerly belonging to the establishment, who is brought from Cambridge every month, and the schoolmaster of the Excellent gunnery-ship, under the superintendence of the Port Admiral, the second in command, and the Captain of the Excellent. The following were found qualified this month:—

G. H. Wood, G. D. Keane, F. Marten—Portland.

W. H. Haswell, H. C. Toby, J. N. T. Saulez—Bellerophon.

C. M. Luckraff—Hercules.

Hon. Charles Elliot—Pantaloön.

W. H. Clark, W. B. Blaquiere—Britannia.

Naval instructors are also examined at the same place, and by the same persons; but that class of officers are at a premium, the remuneration being most trifling, and not worth the notice of a man of education.

During the month the officers of the Royal Marine corps have presented to Lord George Lennox a superb silver vase for his able and persevering exertions in the House of Commons in aid of the corps. They arranged that a dinner should be given at the mess-room of this division on the 10th instant, and his Lordship and the following guests—Lord Sussex Lennox, Captain Boldero, Admiral Sir Philip Durham, the Commander-in-Chief, Rear-Admiral the Hon. D. P. Bouverie, Captain Travers, with three or four officers from the other division—being invited, the vase was, after the Queen's health had been drank, presented to Lord George Lennox, on the part of the whole corps, by Colonel Lewis, C.B., the Senior Commandant, in a very neat speech.

Lord George returned his grateful and sincere thanks for the handsome

manner in which his exertions had been rewarded by so superb a present, and promised that no trouble should prevent him persevering in obtaining all the corps were justly entitled to. His Lordship assured the officers present, that his attention had in a great measure been directed to the grievances of the Marine corps by his friend Captain Travers, who had given him most valuable information on many points, and enabled him to bring their case in a clear manner before the House of Commons, and thus very many members had zealously supported him in consequence. Lord George concluded a capital address by expressing his earnest wish for the welfare and prosperity of every member of the corps.

After Captain Boldero's health had been drank, he also returned his thanks for the gratifying way it had been done; and said that he had had great satisfaction in being the seconder of Lord George Lennox's suggestions and motions in the House of Commons, and he trusted that by persevering in their endeavours the most favourable results would arise from the commission about to sit.

On Captain Travers' health being proposed by the chairman, that worthy officer acknowledged the honour conferred on him as most gratifying to his feelings, but disclaimed all merit beyond the circumstance (a very important one) of having pointed out to the officers of the corps that Lord George Lennox would prove a most able and disinterested advocate of their cause; and the result had verified his predictions, as every officer of the corps had, from the memorable 10th March, 1837, to the present hour, the most implicit and unqualified confidence in him, and admired his manly perseverance. He had by his indefatigable exertions made known the cause, character, and merits of the Marine corps throughout the kingdom, and no administration or party could in future treat their just claims and rights with the marked neglect and inattention they had hitherto so frequently and so cruelly experienced.

Admiral Sir Philip Durham, on his health being drank, returned his warm thanks, which was not the first or second time he had done so in that room. In the course of his speech he mentioned a strong fact illustrative of the backwardness of promotion in the Marine branch of the Service compared with the Naval, by stating that when he first entered the Service as a youngster, the present Colonel Moncrieffe was Captain of Marines of the ship; and at the time every symptom of mutiny prevailed in consequence of the tyranny of the Commander, but through the determined loyalty of the party of Marines on board, commanded by that officer, it was suppressed: yet, to show the tardiness of promotion in the corps, at the present time he (Sir Philip) had arrived nearly at the head of the Admiral's List, while the Colonel had only retired with the rank of Colonel in the Army.

Several of the other guests also spoke during the evening.

The party, which amounted to about sixty-four, did not separate until a late hour. The banquet was in every respect most perfect, and gave unqualified satisfaction. Space will not admit of any further remarks on this festive occurrence than the following description of the vase, which is a copy of the celebrated one in the conservatory of Warwick Castle, discovered among the ruins of Adrian's Villa, near Rome—the design of which, as most of our readers will probably recollect, consists of heads of Bacchus and Bacchantes, with Thyrsi on leopards' skins, and in the copy given to Lord George Lennox are exquisitely chased in frosted silver. The height, with the pedestal, is about two feet; the weight 400 oz., and cost between 500 and 600 guineas, and is the workmanship of Messrs. Rundle and Bridge. On one side of the pedestal the arms of Lord George Lennox are admirably chased in relief; the reverse has the colours and crest of the Royal Marines, the word "Gibraltar" being admitted between; the motto of the corps—"Per Mare per Terram," being at the foot. The

pedestal rests on four pieces of rock of frosted silver. Under the arms of Lord George Lennox is the following inscription:—"From the Officers of the Royal Marines to the Right Honourable Lord George Lennox, M.P., as a tribute of gratitude for his able, zealous, and persevering exertions in their cause—1837."

There has been a little promotion by the retirements on full-pay of Colonel and Second-Commandant Bevians, and Captains R. B. Galloway, Wm. H. Devon, J. R. Maseall, and A. Hendry; Captain Stevens, of the Marine Artillery, is re-appointed to the Laboratory, and Captain Steele obtains his company, thus causing another vacancy; so that the following First-Lieutenants have been made Captains—Chas. Clarke, Alex. Jervis, Richard K. Barnes, John Law, Chas. R. Miller, and Isaac Toby; and Messrs. McCarthy, March, Hadfield, Budd, Stevens, and Spalding, have been promoted to be First-Lieutenants. One or two officers have been despatched to the North Coast of Spain, and to-morrow morning about sixty men will go thither by the Columbia steamer and the Pantaloon tender.

P.S.—The Rainbow left at Jamaica the Cornwallis, with the flag of Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Charles Paget, the Seringapatam, Crocodile, Comus, Satellite, and Nimrod. The Ringdove, Sappho, Serpent, and Wanderer, had sailed a few days previous upon different cruises. The squadron had assembled to form Courts-martial upon Mr. Baird (b), Surgeon of the Wanderer, for contempt and disobedience of orders, which were proved in part, and he was admonished: he afterwards left the Wanderer, and joined the Magnificent. The boatswain of the Wanderer was also tried for absenting himself from the Dockyard, and for insolence and contempt to the First-Lieutenant: the charges were proved, and he was dismissed the Service. The carpenter of the Rainbow was tried for writing anonymous letters to the Admiralty against the Captain and officers of that ship: the charges were not proved, and he was acquitted. The boatswain of the Rainbow was tried for repeated disobedience of orders, for writing anonymous letters, and for beating the gunner: the first charges being proved, and the prosecutor having declined to produce evidence upon the others, the Court sentenced him to be dismissed the Service, and to be imprisoned twelve months in the Marshalsea. The Rainbow had a very tedious passage, having experienced a constant succession of light easterly winds. The statement which was put forth, that by some mismanagement she was short of provisions and water nearly all the passage home, is not correct; the fact is, from the length of passage, her provisions run short, and she purchased from two merchant-ships what little they could spare—a cask of beef and pork from one, and a cask of flour from the other; what she obtained from her Majesty's ships Hercules and Minden was only procured by way of a precautionary measure, as there was every reason to expect a continuation of the obstinate east wind.* She did not procure water from any ship: on the contrary, she brought twelve tons (three weeks consumption) into Spithead with her.

The Thalia has on board two fine specimens of the Secretary Bird (*Falco Serpentarius*) from Southern Africa; also some fine specimens of birds from the South Sea Islands, alive; and a beautiful pony, from the neighbourhood of Timbuctoo, brought down the Niger by Mr. Beecroft, on his late voyage up that river from Fernando.

The Lieutenants' vacancies in the African squadron, occasioned by the death of Lieutenant Rosenberg of the Forester, and Lieutenant H. P. Deschamps of the Bonetta, have been filled by Messrs. C. Y. Campbell and Henry Barnett Davis, Mates of the Thalia, being promoted to that rank.

Plymouth, May 21st, 1838.

MR. EDITOR.—The naval news from the port of Plymouth since the date of my last, affords but little matter of variety or interest.

On the 23rd ult. the Tortoise dockyard lighter sailed for Pembroke Yard, having on board Mr. Walter (the second Master-Attendant) and a party of riggers, who were sent thither for the purpose of bringing round the Grecian 16-gun brig, the launching of which was fixed for, and took place on, the 24th ult. They arrived here with her on the 5th of this month, and she is to be immediately brought forward for sea service. The Buzard, 3, brigantine, commanded by Lieut. J. L. R. Stoll, arrived on the 24th from the coast of Africa. Since she left England, she has had seven Commanders. The gunner is the only officer who went out in her, four years ago, and his share of prize-money amounted to very little short of a thousand pounds, the vessel having captured 3870 slaves. She was paid off on the 12th of this month, is now in dock, and will very shortly be recommissioned for the same station.

The Hercules, 74, Captain Toup Nicolas, arrived on the 25th, in twenty-five days, from Halifax. She was only twenty-seven days on her passage out, from Cork. On the 5th of this month she sailed again, with detachments from dépôts of the 1st, 32nd, and 43rd Regiments, to join the service-companies in Canada. The Portland, 52, Captain A. Price, arrived in the Sound on the 27th, from Portsmouth, having landed there on the 25th Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Briggs, the late Superintendent of the Dockyard at Malta, who took a passage home in her. She came into Hamoaze on the 1st of this month, and was paid off into ordinary on the 11th. The Weazle, 10-gun brig, was commissioned on the 28th ultimo by Lieut. Milwaine, formerly in command of the Volcano steamer, which vessel is now at Woolwich refitting. She has been commissioned by Lieut. West, late of the African, and will shortly proceed to Malta. The Russell, 74, Captain Sir William Dillon, arrived in the Sound on the 30th ult. from Malta, after a passage of five weeks. She was paid wages on the 14th, and sailed on the 15th for Lisbon. The general appearance of this ship has excited the admiration of many, and she has the character of being in excellent discipline. The Jupiter troop-ship, Master-Commander East, arrived in the Sound on the 2nd of the month, with invalids from the West Indies. She was paid wages on the 14th, and sailed on the 16th for Cork, where she is to receive troops for North America. The Prince Regent transport sailed on the 5th, also for Cork. She arrived there on the 8th, and having embarked some of the 1st Dragoon Guards and 7th Hussars, has since sailed for Quebec. The Messenger, Mr. King, Master, arrived here on the 5th, and sailed on the 10th for Pembroke, having previously received on board a party of marines, some dockyard stores, and Captain-Superintendent Jackson's luggage. She returned to this port on Friday last (18th instant) with marines belonging to this division who have been relieved from doing duty at that dockyard, and she started again this morning for Dover and Chatham, with invalids belonging to the 14th, 36th, 47th, 49th, 59th, 67th, 69th, 70th, 76th, and 92nd Regiments.

The Andromache, 28, Captain R. L. Baynes, arrived in the Sound on the 7th from Portsmouth, and sailed for her destination, Quebec, on the 9th. The Ranger packet was undocked on the 10th and was commissioned again on the 17th, her former Commander, Lieut. Turner, having been reappointed to her. She will be ready for sea in about a fortnight. The Minden, 74, Captain A. B. Sharp, C.B., arrived in the Sound on the 14th in twenty-five days from Bermuda. It appears, according to accounts brought by her, that no hopes are entertained for the safety of the Briseis packet, it being believed that she was run down by an American ship in the Gulf of Florida, and that she was seen to founder before there was a possibility of rendering her any assistance. It is expected that the Minden

will come into harbour, her defects being of a nature to require her to be docked.

The *Lyra* packet, commanded by Lieut. Forrester, went out of harbour on the 14th, and having taken powder on board in the Sound, proceeded forthwith to Falmouth, to be ready to take out the next Mexican mail. The *Bellerophon*, 80, Captain Austen, arrived on the 14th from Portsmouth; and having remained one day in the Sound, sailed on the 15th for Malta: the *Buzzard* was docked on the 15th. Her Majesty's birth-day was celebrated on the 17th with the usual demonstrations of loyalty. The troops of the garrison were reviewed upon Mount Wise, the ships and land-batteries fired royal salutes, every description of vessel in Hamoaze was gaily decorated with colours, and many merry peals enlivened the commemoration of the natal day of Queen Victoria.

The commissioned ships at this port are the *Royal Adelaide*, flag-ship; the *San Josef*, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Superintendent Warren; the *Talbot*, 28, Captain Codrington, nearly ready for sea; the *Minden*, 74; the *Ranger*, packet; and the *Weazle*, 10-gun brig. The *Jaseur*, sloop, 18, is ready for commissioning; and the *Buzzard*, 3, brigantine, will be ready very shortly. The *Grecian*, 16-gun brig, and the *Penguin*, packet, are to be brought forward for commission; also the *Peterel*, packet, when she arrives from Pembroke, which will probably be in the course of next week. The ships in dock are the *Caledonia*, 120, *Lancaster*, 52, *Endymion*, 48, *Hamadryad*, 46, and *Buzzard*, 3. The *Pilot*, 16, building, will, in all probability, be launched the second week in June, and put into commission very shortly afterwards. The slip which she occupies will then soon be taken possession of by another brig of a similar kind, to be called the *Acorn*, the frames of which are already put together. Two packets, to be named the *Ferret* and *Philomel*, are ordered to be built here; also two sixth-rates, of 26 guns, to be called the *Creole* and *Spartan*. It is said that the *Caledonia*, 120, is to be brought forward as a "demonstration" ship: the demonstration ships now at this port are the *Impregnable*, 104, *Belleisle*, 74, *Agincourt*, 74, *Implacable*, 74, and *Druid*, 46-gun frigate.

Yours, &c.

D.

Milford Haven, May 17, 1838.

MR. EDITOR,—The usual tranquillity of this port has been considerably interrupted during the past month by a disagreement among the officers of the Arsenal, and which has created such an excitement that little else is talked of in the neighbourhood. It appears three of the principal officers—viz. the Master-Shipwright, the Clerk of the Check, and one of the assistants—declined compliance with some order of Captain Corbyn, the Acting-Superintendent, which on being represented to the Admiralty, instructions were received on the 4th instant for their suspension, and up to the period of my writing, I am given to understand, they still remain suspended from their duties. Such an event is unheard of in the annals of dockyards. Something of a similar nature did take place in the year 1815, when two of the principal officers of Plymouth Yard had a difference with Surveyor Seppings, and they were in consequence removed to other naval establishments—but in that instance there was no suspension. On Tuesday last the affair was openly investigated by Captain Jackson, the new Superintendent, but the result has not yet been made public.

On the 24th ult. another of the Surveyor's vessels, the *Grecian*, was launched from Pembroke Yard before a large concourse of spectators, although the weather was anything but favourable. The following are her principal dimensions:—

	Ft.	In.
Length between the perpendiculars	105	0
Ditto of keel for tonnage	82	7
Breadth, extreme	33	6
Ditto moulded	32	8
Ditto for tonnage	33	2
Depth in the hold	14	10
Draught of water forward	8	11
Ditto ditto abaft	11	8
Burden in tons, oil measurement	454	38
Ditto ditto new ditto	271	

She was docked the following morning, and went round to Plymouth a few days afterwards, where it is intended she shall be immediately brought forward for commission. The former ship of the Surveyor's launched from Pembroke, the Penguin, was only nineteen hours running from hence to Plymouth under jury-gear.

The Messenger, steam-transport, Mr. King, Master, arrived here on the 11th instant, with a portion of the relief for the Marine detachment. Only sixty-three privates have yet arrived, and, consequently, a serjeant's guard is all that can at present be supplied to the Dockyard. The working-party, too, which has proved such a decidedly useful arrangement, has been thus compelled to be withheld, nor can a more efficient guard be afforded to the Dockyard, or the fatigue-party resumed until the remainder of the relief be sent either from Portsmouth or Chatham.

The Silvia cutter has lately been fitted at Pembroke by Lieutenant Sheringham, R.N., for the purpose of surveying the Welsh coast, in the vicinity of Fishgard. Every possible exertion is being made, by the directions of the Admiralty, to complete the Merlin and Medusa, steam-packets of large dimensions, during the summer. The workmen are employed on them from six A.M. until six P.M., and take their victuals within the Dockyard, so as to lose as little time as possible at their meals.

To-day the relieved detachment of the Royal Marines, under command of Captain Mitchell, embarked on board the Messenger steam-transport for Plymouth. Just as they quitted the wharf the great guns of the fort fired a royal salute in honour of her Majesty's birth-day, which had a peculiarly imposing effect. All the vessels in port to-day are richly adorned, The Castlemartin Yeomanry Cavalry, too, being one of the regiments saved from disbandment, are out to-day doing honour to the event. The Royal Marines fired three distinct *feu de joie*, and the Royal Artillery a royal salute from Fort Adelaide.

Captain Jackson, the new Superintendent and Commodore of the station, arrived at Pembroke on the 9th inst., and took charge of the Naval Arsenal on the 10th.

G.

NOTICES TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

THE mass of correspondence has so accumulated on our hands, of which a long arrear has been for some time in type, that we have been induced to forego the insertion in our present number of the Reviews and Critical Notices, which we had prepared, of a variety of recent publications, in order, as far as possible, to bring up our lee-way in the former department. Notwithstanding this, we have still to bear down upon the patience of numerous writers—too numerous, indeed, to be referred to individually, in the corner into which we find ourselves driven. The obduracy of type is such that the contents of a volume will not, by any species of legerdemain, be compressed within the space of a single number. With this general notice, therefore, we must request our Correspondents to say "content" for this month, reposing upon the assurance of our unremitting endeavours to maintain the interests of every branch of the UNITED SERVICE.

EDITOR'S PORTFOLIO ;
OR,
NAVAL AND MILITARY REGISTER.

AFFAIRS AT HOME AND ABOARD.

THE first Natal Day, since her accession, of our young and interesting Sovereign was celebrated on Thursday the 17th ultimo. The guard-mounting on the Parade in rear of the Horse-Guards was enlivened by the presence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the General Commanding-in-Chief, and a number of other General and Staff Officers. The Drawing-Room held in commemoration of this auspicious occasion, was attended by a vast concourse of Officers of the United Service.

The Coronation appears definitely to be fixed for the 28th of the current month. We seldom indulge in anticipations; but we cannot forbear, on this occasion, expressing a well-grounded hope that no misdirected parsimony will be permitted so far to prevail in the Councils of our beloved Sovereign, as to induce her to forego, on this joyous event—an event which we sincerely pray may not recur for many, very many years—the usual prerogative of the Crown of signally noting its advent by an especial mark of Royal favour conferred upon the United Service, in form of a general Promotion. We trust that no motive for disappointing this very natural expectation will be allowed to avail, whether on the score of assumed expense, or under the pretext of awaiting the probably protracted report of the recently appointed Commission of Enquiry. We will not here revert to universally admitted truths—the deep devotion of the Members of the United Service in upholding the stability of the Throne, and the maintenance of loyal attachment to the person of the Sovereign—to their claims upon the gratitude of that larger portion of the community, whose fire-sides have been preserved sacred from the invaders' unhallowed tread, by the patriotism, the intrepidity, the self-devotion of the nation's protectors—of their braving disease and death in all their most appalling forms, whether in climes inimical to European constitutions, or in the other varied forms of danger inseparable from the profession—or to their ill-requited rewards for these benefits conferred and sacrifices endured. No: long suffering and privation, arising from these causes, and, perhaps, most of all from inadequate pecuniary means to maintain their position, the Members of the United Service submit to, if not without a murmur, at least with becoming conformity to the exigencies of the country. But would it be consistent with sound policy, losing sight for the moment of better motives, to blight the very general and natural hope which similar events have fully warranted, of the usual boon being awarded? We would indignantly repudiate any doubts of the loyalty of the profession, but when it is brought to mind that the senior Captains of her Majesty's Navy have remained stationary in their present rank for thirty-two years, who will say that the time has not fully arrived, when the natural and praiseworthy ambition of these veterans, to attain the highest dignity

of the Service, should be rewarded; nor are their brethren of the sister branches, when all the circumstances of their relative position are taken into account, a whit behind them in their claims to a similar recompense. We trust, therefore, that the doubts and misgivings on this subject, which have reached us, will very shortly be dissipated, and that on presenting our next Number to our readers we shall have the gratification of congratulating the United Service on the attainment of their justly-cherished aspirations.

Under the head of Appointments will be found the names of the Commissioners recently appointed by her Majesty "for enquiring into the several modes of promotion and retirement now authorized and granted to the Officers of her Majesty's Naval and Military Forces; for ascertaining the comparative situation of the Officers of each branch; and for reporting whether, due regard being had to economy and to the efficiency of the Service, it may be practicable and expedient to make any and what changes in the present system." A glance through the names of the Commissioners is a sufficient guarantee that no labour will be spared in the investigation, although we could have wished that the list had been added to by the names of some officers of a junior grade, and that some branches which appear to have been forgotten had also a representative on the Commission, more particularly the medical department, as having many well-substantiated claims to consideration. Upon the subjects propounded for their investigation, the Commissioners will, doubtless, bring to their aid the testimony of Officers of every degree; that thus each link of the great chain may receive its share of ample consideration; but we deem no apology necessary, for hinting that in the pages of the United Service Journal may be found, we might almost say, all that is requisite for their guidance and decision. More especially we would direct attention to an article in our January Number for 1837, entitled "The Army to the Commons of Great Britain," in which we believe every department of the military branch was brought under review; and, in former and succeeding Numbers, a very little research will discover numerous papers, either in the body of the work, or in the communications from Correspondents, which will prove no little assistance in directing their attention to the particular species of grievances in the United Service, that most loudly call for amelioration or redress, and to such changes as it may be "practicable and expedient to make in the present system." We shall look with much anxiety for the Report of the Commissioners, which we shall not fail to lay before our readers at the earliest possible moment.

We beg to direct the especial attention of our readers to the General Meeting that has been convened for the 11th June, in aid of the funds for erecting a public metropolitan Testimonial commemorative of the gallant achievements of the immortal Nelson. We have so frequently adverted to this topic, and advocated its fulfilment, that we think it unnecessary at the present moment to dwell further on the subject, than to express a hope that the Meeting will be attended by every member of every branch of the United Service, who have the means of being present. It is a sacred call, not so much on the generosity, as upon the

justice of the entire country, and while we call more impressively upon the profession to aid, by their presence on this occasion, the advancement of the object; the demand is not less imperative upon all,—for what profession, or what calling, can be named that has not derived advantage, or what individual of the general community that does not attach to himself a glory, from the splendid victories of England's noblest hero? Let us, therefore, with one accord unite, in giving effect to the last injunctions—embalmed in the death-wound of their proclaimer—

“England expects every man to do his duty.”

We have little to communicate this month on the subject of Canada beyond what is contained in our leading paper. The late outbreak appears to have been so effectually moderated by the prompt and judicious, though painful, measures resorted to, that fears of any further serious opposition to the Queen's authority have ere this, we trust, entirely subsided, and that, with the renovated face of nature, peace has been restored to this rising and valuable colony. We append an extract from a letter of a late date from a Correspondent in the Upper Province:—

Port, Samia, Western District, Upper Canada,
1st April, 1838.

When I wrote you last (6th February), I told you that I was then serving in the Militia, and that we were in daily expectation of being attacked by the rebels and their allies, our treacherous neighbours; and I am confident that nothing but the loyal feelings known to prevail among us, and the resolute appearance we made, prevented them from paying us a visit; for we well knew that the rebels were not only enlisting and training men openly in the States, for the avowed purpose of invading Canada, but were receiving from the Americans large supplies of arms and ammunition, provisions, &c. I continued to serve till the 17th of March, when there appearing to be no further occasion for our services, and being anxious to return to my family, I obtained permission to dismiss my company. We all fully expect a war, and I believe there are few among us who do not wish it; we feel indignant with our neighbours for the base part they have acted, and for the trouble and expense they have occasioned: a lesson on *humanity* would be of use to them.

The usual half-yearly public examinations of the Officers and Gentlemen Cadets studying at the Royal Military College, took place on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of May, before a Board of Commissioners, at which there were present—besides Major-General Sir George Scovell, the Governor, and Colonel Taylor, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Institution—Generals the Hon. Sir G. Lowry Cole and Sir W. H. Clinton, and Major-General Gardiner, Deputy Adjutant-General. Among the spectators were Lieut.-General Sir C. Wale, K.C.B., Colonel Ewart, C.B., Lieut.-Colonels C. Bentinck, H. Bentinck, and Hay (Coldstream Guards), Major Warburton, and other Officers.

The examinations of the Gentlemen Cadets occupied the 14th and 15th of May; at the close of which the following were declared to have completed their qualifications for commissions, and were accordingly recommended by the Commissioners to the General Commanding in Chief, in the order of their acquirements and merit, to receive Ensigncies in the Line without purchase:—

1. John A. Ewart; 2. Henry B. Phipps; 3. Edward B. Pratt; 4. Robert B. Hawley; 5. William W. T. Cole; 6. Robert G. Wale; 7. Charles T. V. Isaac; 8. Frederic J. Bayly.

The first three on the list having, moreover, each passed examinations beyond the required course for a commission, were rewarded with honorary certificates of approbation. But the number of Gentlemen Cadets brought forward for public examination on this occasion, in the different branches of the college course of instruction, was—in Mathematics, 37; in Fortification, 31; in Military Surveying, 14; in the Latin, French, and German languages, 29; and in General History, ancient and modern, 10; making a total of 121 examinations.

Of the practical field instruction, carried on during the term in surveying, fortification, &c., the usual plans and reports were submitted to the Commissioners. Among the exhibitions in the surveying department, most conspicuous for beautiful execution, were a plane table sketch, in penwork, of several square miles of ground in the vicinity of the College, together with other military plans of ground, by Gentleman Cadet Robert G. Wale, who seems to have proved himself, unquestionably, the best draughtsman of the present term; and among the mass of military sketches of ground laid down, whether by the plane table or eye, as well as of more elaborate operations, triangulated by theodolite and pocket sextant, and calculated trigonometrically, which altogether form the regular course of surveying established at the College, the plans executed in the field by Gentlemen Cadets Alexander B. Rooke, William W. T. Cole, and Robert B. Hawley, to the first of whom the usual prize sextant had been awarded, offered the highest promise of future excellence in these important branches of their profession. In the fortification department, the plans of sieges and fortresses, not included in the required course of study, but performed voluntarily, and for the most part during the hours allotted to recreation, were unusually numerous. Of these, the chief novelties were—plans of the modern works of Ehrenbreitstein and Fort Alexander at Coblenz, beautifully executed by Gentlemen Cadets Richard H. B. Whittingham and Frederick J. Wilson. These plans—forming most interesting objects of professional study, as illustrating the manner in which the Prussian engineers have adapted the ideas of Montalembert and Carnot to ground of great natural strength—were copied from the able work lately published on the subject by Colonel Humsfrey.

Among the other drawings now exhibited may also be noticed a very masterly perspective plan of the works and harbour of Malta, by Gentleman Cadet Robert G. Wale; plans of the sieges of Saragossa and Antwerp, both admirably drawn by Gentlemen Cadets John A. Ewart and Charles H. White; also of the attack on the Castle of Burgos, and of the fortresses of Flushing, Cherbourg, and Dantzic, by Gentlemen Cadets Hugh J. Campbell, Lempster R. Elliot, Charles W. Tupper, and Henry F. Vavasour; of blockhouses, inundations, sluices, &c., by Gentlemen Cadets David Anderson and Alexander B. Rooke; of the systems of Cormontaigne and Carnot, by Gentlemen Cadets John Montresor and Clement W. Strong; a plan of the operations of the siege review at Chatham lines, in 1836, by Gentleman Cadet George H. M. Jones; and, lastly, a sketch of the Cremaillère lines near the College, by Gentleman Cadet Charles A. Thompson, showing the progress made by the detachment of Royal Sappers and Miners, and two parties of the Gentlemen Cadets themselves, in constructing two faces of a bastion, in connexion with that extensive range of works, during the present spring.

In the course of the examinations, on the 15th of May, the Commissioners adjourned to the margin of the lake, to see the united fortification classes, amounting to thirty Gentlemen Cadets, man a double column of boats and cask rafts, which were rowed from the upper part of the lake; and with which, in less than twelve minutes, the usual pontoon bridge—one hundred and twenty feet long, eight broad, and capable of bearing the passage of light artillery—was thrown from the mainland to a small island. As part of the work of the term, there had also been prepared for the in-

struction of the Gentlemen Cadets several infantry bridges, thrown over other parts of the water, and composed of spars, of a cart and ladders, and of such other ready expedients as might be usefully employed on service. Besides the pontoon practice, the fortification classes were told off into working and tracing parties; and, in presence of the Board, proceeded to make fascines and gabions, and to piquet and profile field works of various kinds.

The examination of the senior department, which took place on the 16th of May, was regulated as usual by the synopsis of the course of study pursued at the institution, together with an extra list of propositions relating to the higher branches of mathematical and physical science, which are particularly studied by such of the officers as extend their researches beyond the prescribed limits of the general course.

On the present occasion this list comprehended, besides several problems requiring for their solution the principles of geometrical analysis, a considerable series of such as involve in their investigation the more refined processes of the infinitesimal calculus. These last, as far as they related to pure science, were drawn from the theory of analytical functions, including the several developments in series, the theory of maxima and minima, tangents, the osculatory radius, the nature and properties of the cycloid and catenary; and some applications of the formulæ for the rectification, quadrature, &c., of curves. With respect to the subjects of mixed mathematics, the list contained many useful propositions in mechanics, hydrodynamics, &c., with their applications in determining the stability of edifices and floating bodies; the resistance to motion in fluids; and the theory of projectiles. There was added, from the *Principia* and other works, a number of propositions relating to physical astronomy and geodesia, which, together with those contained in the regular synopsis, make up a course of study in all that appertains to the determination of the figure of the earth.

At the usual preparatory examination before the authorities of the College the progress made by the several officers was ascertained by *vivâ voce* demonstrations, and by answers given in writing to questions both in mathematics and fortification.

Concerning the degrees of talent exhibited by the officers, the reports of the Professors, who were appointed to examine the solutions relating to the subjects in their respective departments, were highly satisfactory; and Capt. E. Harvey, 14th Light Dragoons, was particularly noticed for his investigations of subjects contained in the first volume of the *Mécanique Céleste* of La Place.

The public examination in mathematics consisted in the extemporaneous solution of several propositions in mechanics, on the motion of bodies in resisting media, and in practical astronomy, which were selected from the lists by Sir William Clinton. This being performed to the satisfaction of the Board, the usual examination concerning the principles of permanent and field fortification, the attack and defence of places, and the operations of mining took place; after which the Commissioners adjourned to the grounds before the College, where the officers traced the magistral lines of various kinds of field-works, and set up piquets correctly exhibiting the profiles of their parapets in the directions of the capitals.

The Board-Room exhibited a fair display of the works executed by the officers in fortification and military surveying during the term, among which was a plan of the country on the line of the Roman Road to Bath, in continuation of the parts previously determined; and a survey, both military and geological, of that portion of the Mendip range which lies between Wells and the Bristol Channel. It may be observed that, on a former occasion, Captain E. H. D. E. Napier, 46th Regiment, and Lieut. G. Grey, 83rd Regiment, had surveyed a tract of ground exhibiting nearly all the varieties presented by the tertiary strata in the county of Surrey;

and the object now proposed, in addition to the usual exercise in military topography, was that of affording a practical lesson respecting the secondary formations in the south of England. For this purpose, Lieutenant, now Captain D. S. Cooper, Royal Regiment, and Lieut. C. Ready, 71st Regt., voluntarily undertook to execute the work above mentioned. The extent of the survey is about seventeen miles in length, and six in breadth, its direction coinciding with that of the central ridge of old red sandstone, which forms the antediluvial axis of the chain. This district is an elevated plateau, from which the sandstone rises about 300 feet above the general level, and 1000 feet above that of the sea. The mountain limestone through which that ridge of rock protrudes covers the flanks of the latter on the northern and southern sides, their places of junction at the upper surface being marked by deep combs or ravines rich in veins of lead and lapis calaminaris; and, from the exterior sides of the covering masses, long buttresses of the same material project from the central chain. The bases of these are covered by the new sandstone formation, and this, on a lower level, is overlaid by the alluvial deposits which constitute the soil in the valleys of the Axe and Yeo.

The portion surveyed by Captain Cooper commenced on the western side of the Cheddar Cliffs, and extended northward to Burrington Combe, from whence that officer pursued his researches to the west as far as Bream Down on the Bristol Channel. From Wookey Cavern Lieut. Ready surveyed the southern ridge as far as Cheddar, and afterwards followed the northern limestone chain to its termination at Bearn Hill. The plan is accompanied by a section crossing the chain of the Mendips from Draycot to Burrington, and showing the geological positions of the strata; the heights of the ground having been obtained for this purpose from a series of barometrical observations made by Lieutenants Symonds and Ready. Both the vertical and horizontal dimensions in the section are set out from the same scale as the plan, which, being of four inches to a mile, is sufficiently great to allow the various strata to be distinctly expressed.

The correspondence of the features of the ground to its geological character appears to have been very correctly expressed on the plan; for in those parts where the old sandstone is at the surface the hills are well rounded, in the mountain limestone tracts the crests of the ridges are rugged, and the sides are sometimes precipitous, while the new sandstone at the foot forms grassy slopes of gentle inclination.

The remains of antiquity, within this district, are no less interesting than its geological circumstances. The Roman road from Old Sarum to the port, which once existed at Uphill on the Bristol Channel, pursued its course along the central axis of the chain, and was protected by numerous intrenchments, whose remains still crown the principal summits of the hills. The portion included within the limits of the present survey commenced at a point where it crosses the existing road from Wells to Bristol, and from thence proceeds in a rectilinear direction to the foot of the hill near Charter House, where the vestiges of a Roman town, with an amphitheatre, have been discovered.

The neighbouring country, it may be observed, abounds with sepulchral tumuli, and the remains of ancient mines. At this spot the road makes a bend, and skirts the southern side of the long ridge called Black Down, near the western extremity of which is an intrenchment commanding an extensive view of the country: subsequently, passing by Shipham, Banwell Hill Camp, it ascends Bleadon Hill, from whence the line may be distinctly traced in a rectilinear direction tending towards Uphill Church. Arriving near this spot, however, the road makes an abrupt bend, and is carried, through an excavation in the rock, down to the place where the ancient harbour is known to have been situated.

Besides the large survey, of which we have given these particulars, another highly creditable example of military topography was now exhi-

bited, deserving of special notice—viz., a plan of sixteen square miles of country surrounding Hook, in Hampshire, and showing the present state of the cuttings for the London and Southampton Railroad, which enters the plan at Shapley Heath, and, crossing the London and Exeter Road near Hook, proceeds by Newnham towards Basingstoke. The cuts are principally made through the plastic and London clay, immediately bordered to the eastward by the mass of the upper marine sand, and reposing to the south on the chalk formation at Odiham and neighbourhood, from which several interesting buried sea-remains have been extracted, especially near Newnham, where a splendid specimen of the nautilus was found. This plan reflects great credit on the officers employed—viz., Captains S. Y. Martin, 67th Regiment; J. R. Brunker, 15th Regiment; B. E. Layard, Ceylon Rifle Corps; and Lieutenant R. Pelley, 50th Regiment—both for the coincidence in one general plan of their detached sketches on the ground, and also for the great beauty and neatness with which it has been laid down on paper.

At the conclusion of the examinations, a certificate of the first class was given to Lieutenant C. Ready, 71st Regiment; who was also complimented by the Board on the highly creditable collection of surveys, plans, and other drawings, which he had exhibited. To Captain E. Harvey, 14th Light Dragoons, it was communicated, that the Board, "observing that he had not only acquitted himself with the greatest credit in his examination in the prescribed course of studies, but had also extended his acquirements far beyond the limits of that course, into the highest branches of mathematical science; and the Professor (Narrien), who so ably conducts the studies of the senior department, having also felt it his duty to bear honourable testimony to the desire for intellectual improvement by which his whole residence at the department had been peculiarly distinguished; the Board had directed that their sense of his superior merits and talents should be recorded on his certificate, by a special addition to the usual form."

UNITED SERVICE MUSEUM.

EVENING MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERS.

Monday, 7th May, 1838.

Commander W. RAMSAY, R.N., F.R.A.S., in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read.

A list of sixteen Members, who had joined the Institution since the last Meeting, was read.

A list of books, which had been recently purchased by order of the Council, was read, amounting to about 350 volumes.

The following presents received since the last Meeting were exhibited:—

Captain John Lihou, R.N., F.R.S.—Suggestions for the establishment of a Naval Nursery for Sailors to man H. M. Fleet. 8vo. 1838.

The Royal Geographical Society.—Journal of the Society, Vol. VIII. Part 1.

Lieut.-Colonel Capadose, 1st W.L.R.—Kindred, a Comedy in 5 Acts. Translated from the German of Kotzebue by the donor. 8vo. London, 1837.

The Rev. T. T. Haverfield, B.D., Rector of Goddington, Oxford.—Sermons on Doctrine and Practice. 8vo. London, 1838.

Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Pasley, F.R.S., R.E.—Description of the Universal Telegraph for Day and Night Signals, invented by the donor. 8vo. London, 1823.

Captain Thos. Maughan, Bombay Army.—Two Battle-axes used by the Khunds or Khandahs, Northern Boundary of the Madras Presidency.

W. H. Hall, Esq., Master R.N.—Model of a Massuah Boat.—Model of a Catamaran.—2 Pairs of Indian Slippers.—A Toucan.—A Lizard.—A Pelican.

Major-General Sir David Ximenes, K.C.H.—A richly-ornamented Spear, formerly belonging to Runjeet Singh, King of the Sheikhs.

Mrs. Henry Hammer.—A collection of Geological Specimens from the Himalaya Mountains, brought to England by Sir D. Ximenes.—4 Coins from the Ruins of Carnongle, 50 miles north-west of Cawnpore.—Small Gaviol, or Alligator of the Ganges.—Petrifications from a newly-discovered cave near Mussoori in the Himalaya Mountains.—Hair of the Musk-deer.—One pair of glass Bangles.—String of Beads used by the Fakirs.

Lieut Col R H Birch, R A — 3 Bird skins and 1 skin of an Otter, from the banks of the Shrunnon.
 — Slab of fine Serpentine from Conamara
 Commander John Frazer, R N H M S Nimrod — 2 Saws of the Saw fish, or *Squalus Pristis*.
 Lieut Colonel Bush, 1st W I R — Collection of Birds from Trinidad
 W H Luke Esq., 2nd Gren Bn Bombay Native Infantry — Bracket of an Indian Magician, taken from him for creating disturbances in the lines of the 2nd Bombay Native Infantry

Thanks were voted to the several donors

A collection of Persian Swords of great beauty were exhibited to the Meeting by H Wilkinson, Esq M R A S. Mr Wilkinson offered some remarks on the Jowhar, or watered pattern of these swords, which was due to the crystallization of the iron in cooling

Mr Wilkinson also exhibited to the Meeting some beautiful specimens of castings in iron of small natural objects such as flints, thistles &c. To obtain these casts which could not be done by the ordinary process of moulding, the sand of which the mould was to be formed was mixed with water to impart consistency, and poured round the object. It was then allowed to harden and heated in a furnace until the object within was wholly converted into carbon. Waxes which had been previously passed through the whole were then withdrawn and through the apertures left by these waxes a strong blast of air was forced which uniting with the carbon, carried it off in the form of carbonic acid gas leaving a perfect impression of the original form of the object. The metal, in a state of fusion was then poured into the mould, allowed to cool, and, on breaking the mould, a perfect cast was found of the object desired

Thanks were voted to Mr Wilkinson for the remarks he had offered.

The following papers were read —

1st "On Chiseling" by Lieut H Rippey R N V P R A S
 and Part of a paper by Lieut J R Wellsted R N, F R S, entitled, "A Ramble amongst the
 Rebel Rhytms of Rocky Mountains of Scotia"

Thanks were voted to Lieut Rippey and Lieut Wellsted for their respective communications

The Meeting adjourned to the 21st inst

Monday 21st May

C. F. FORBES M D K H L I S Dep Inpec Gen of Hos in the Chair

A list of twelve Members who had joined the Institution since the 1st Meeting, was read

The Chairman had much pleasure in announcing to the Meeting that a General Meeting of Members of the Institution had been held at Chiswick on the 3rd April by direction of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner Sir H W Doulglas Baird for the purpose of forming a Local Committee for the Ionian Islands. A Committee had been accordingly formed, consisting of the following officers —

President—Major General Sir G H F Berkeley K C B

Morary Secretary—Captain J T Best, 34th Regt

Lieut Col the Hon A I Ellis, 60th Rifles.

Lieut Col A Brown R I

Maj R T Grantham R A

Captain H J Phillips 53rd Regt

Captain L C Lambie, 60th Rifles

Lieut B W Shaw 5th Lancers

A Stewart Esq Ordnance Storekeeper

The following presents had been received since last Meeting —

Lieut Wyld R N — The Flags of England on Triumphs of the late War, as they appeared in the Thanks of Parliament presented to the Army and Navy 8vo London, 1817

Lieut Colonel P J Yorke, Scotch Lushier Guards — Bulletin des Sciences Militaires Volumes IV to VI

H Cole, Esq, Plymouth General's Office — The Case of a Dictator By Buchy de Mountney, Esq 8vo London 1835 (2 copies)

J H Finuell, Esq — Napoleon Poeme en dix Chants, con un versione in Lingua Italiana, di S I Patrony 2 Voll 8vo London, 1834

W J Higgins, Esq Marine Painter to his late Majesty, — Coloured Proof, in a Frame, of Mr. Higgins painting of the Battle of Trafalgar — Coloured Plate of Palo Pinang

Lieut T Grignon 34th Foot — Eighty Specimens of Woods from Jamaica

John Lindsett, Esq L S A — Part of an Iron Clump used in ship building, from the wreck of a vessel allowed up on sunk in the Harbour of Pompeii at the time of the Eruption

Capt L L Napier 46th Regt — A piece of stucco work with Moorish ornament, from the walls of the Alhambra or Palace of the Moorish Sovereigns, at Grenada with the following inscription, in Arabic — *Ala la Ghaleb Alla Ha* — 'There is no conqueror but God'

The following papers were read —

1st "On Gothic Architecture" By Com W Ramsay, R N, F R A S (Second Part)

2nd "On the Rifle Carcass" By Capt J Norton, 1st 34th Regt.

Thanks were voted to Capt Ramsay and Capt Norton for their several communications.

The meeting then adjourned to the 4th June.

Members have the privilege of introducing one friend at each meeting The meeting on the 18th of June will be open to Ladies

STATIONS OF THE BRITISH ARMY ON 1st JUNE, 1838.

[Where two places are mentioned, the last-named is that at which the Depôt of the Regt. is stationed.]

- 1st Life Guards—Windsor.
 2nd do.—Regent's Park.
 Royal Horse Guards—Hyde Park.
 1st Dragoon Guards—Canada; Coventry.
 2nd do.—Cahir.
 3rd do.—Manchester.
 4th do.—Ipswich.
 5th do.—Birmingham.
 6th do.—Brighton.
 7th do.—York.
 1st Dragoons—Cork.
 2nd do.—Dublin.
 3rd do.—Bengal.
 4th do.—Bombay.
 6th do.—Dorchester.
 7th Hussars—Canada; Coventry.
 8th do.—Dublin.
 9th Lancers—Glasgow.
 10th Hussars—Nottingham.
 11th Light Dragoons—Bengal, ordered home.
 13th Lancers—Hounslow.
 13th Light Dragoons—Madras.
 14th do.—Edinburgh.
 15th Hussars—Leeds.
 16th Lancers—Bengal.
 17th do.—Coventry.
 Grenadier Guards [1st batt.]—St. George's B.
 Do. [2nd battalion]—Canada.
 Do. [3rd battalion]—Portman B.
 Coldstream Guards [1st batt.]—Windsor.
 Do. [2nd battalion]—Canada.
 Sc. Fusilier Guards [1st batt.]—Wellington B.
 Do. [2nd battalion]—St. John's Wd.
 1st Foot [1st battalion]—Glasgow.
 Do. [2nd battalion]—Canada; Plymouth.
 2nd do.—Bombay; Chatham.
 3rd do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 4th do.—Madras; Chatham.
 5th do.—Ionian Isles; Portsmouth.
 6th do.—Bombay; Chatham.
 7th do.—Dublin.
 8th do.—Jamaica; Cork.
 9th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 10th do.—Fermoy.
 11th do.—Bermuda; Kinsale.
 12th do.—Mauritius; Tralee.
 13th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 14th do.—West Indies; Brecon.
 15th do.—Canada; Buttevant.
 16th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 17th do.—Bombay; Chatham.
 18th do.—Ceylon; Newbridge.
 19th do.—Templemore.
 20th do.—Tower.
 21st do.—Van Diemen's Land; Chatham.
 22nd do.—Belfast.
 23rd do.—America; Armagh.
 24th do.—Canada; Gosport.
 25th do.—Limerick.
 26th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 27th do.—Cape of G. Hope; Chatham.
 28th do.—N. S. Wales; Chatham.
 29th do.—Plymouth.
 30th do.—Bermuda; Sunderland.
 31st do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 32nd do.—Canada; Devonport.
 33rd do.—Gibraltar; Drogheda.
 34th do.—Canada; Fermoy.
 35th do.—Mauritius; Londonderry.
 36th do.—W. Indies; Devonport.
 37th do.—Jamaica; Plymouth.
 38th do.—Dublin.
 39th Foot—Madras; Chatham.
 40th do.—Bombay; Chatham.
 41st do.—Madras; Chatham.
 42nd do.—Dublin.
 43rd do.—Canada; Dover.
 44th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 45th do.—Canterbury.
 46th do.—Gibraltar; Kinsale.
 47th do.—Malta; Portsmouth.
 48th do.—Athlone.
 49th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 50th do.—New South Wales; Chatham.
 51st do.—Chatham, for Van Diemen's Land.
 52nd do.—Gibraltar; Newcastle.
 53rd do.—Ionian Isles; Dublin.
 54th do.—Madras; Chatham.
 55th do.—Madras; Chatham.
 56th do.—Jamaica; Sheerness.
 57th do.—Madras; Chatham.
 58th do.—Ceylon; Fethard.
 59th do.—Malta; Mullingar.
 60th do. [1st batt.]—Corru; Hull.
 Do. [2nd batt.]—Corru; Jersey.
 61st do.—Ceylon; Clonmel.
 62nd do.—Madras; Chatham.
 63rd do.—Madras; Chatham.
 64th do.—Jamaica; Dundee.
 65th do.—America; Naas.
 66th do.—Canada; Youghal.
 67th do.—W. Indies; Chatham.
 68th do.—Jamaica; Waterford.
 69th do.—W. Indies; Dover.
 70th do.—W. Indies; Guernsey.
 71st do.—Canada.
 72nd do.—Cape of Good Hope; Dublin.
 73rd do.—America; Clare Castle.
 74th do.—West Indies; Fort George.
 75th do.—Cape of Good Hope; Boyle.
 76th do.—W. Indies; Stirling.
 77th do.—Malta; Galway.
 78th do.—Buttevant.
 79th do.—Edinburgh.
 80th do.—N. S. Wales; Chatham.
 81st do.—Gibraltar; Carlisle.
 82nd do.—Gibraltar; Cork.
 83rd do.—Canada; Chester Castle.
 84th do.—Gosport.
 85th do.—Canada; Cork.
 86th do.—Stockport.
 87th do.—Mauritius; Castlebar.
 88th do.—Bolton.
 89th do.—West Indies; Gosport.
 90th do.—Ceylon; Portsmouth.
 91st do.—St. Helena; Dundee.
 92nd do.—Malta; Nenagh.
 93rd do.—America; Cork.
 94th do.—Dublin.
 95th do.—Newry.
 96th do.—Enniskillen.
 97th do.—Birr.
 98th do.—Manchester.
 99th do.—Templemore.
 Rifle Brig. [1st batt.]—Woolwich.
 Do. [2nd batt.]—Portsmouth.
 Royal Staff Corps—Hythe.
 1st West India Regiment—St. Lucia, &c.
 2nd do.—New Providence and Honduras.
 Ceylon Rifle Regiment—Ceylon.
 Cape Mounted Riflemen—Cape of Good Hope.
 Royal African Colonial Corps—Sierra Leone.
 Royal Newfoundland Veteran Comp.—Newfd.
 Royal Malta Fencibles—Malta.

[This Document being prepared exclusively for the U. S. Journal, we request that, when used, its source may be acknowledged.]

STATIONS OF THE ROYAL NAVY IN COMMISSION 1st JUNE, 1838.

- Atina*, 6, sur. v. Capt. A. T. E. Vidal, Coast of Africa.
- Africau*, st. sur. v. Capt. F. W. Beechey, Coast of Ireland.
- Alban*, st. v. Lieut. E. B. Tynling, W. Indies.
- Algerine*, 10, Lieut. W. S. Thomas, East Indies.
- Alligator*, 28, Capt. Sir J. J. G. Bremer, C.B., K.C.H., Australia.
- Andromache*, 28, Captain R. L. Baynes, C.B., particular serv.
- Arrow*, 10, Lieut. B. J. Sullivan, Portsmouth.
- Asia*, 84, Capt. W. Fisher, Mediterranean.
- Astraea*, 6, Capt. J. H. Plumridge, Falmouth.
- Barham*, 50, Capt. A. L. Coir, Mediterranean.
- Basilisk*, 6, ketch, Lieut. G. G. Macdonald, South America.
- Beacon*, 8, sur. v. Lieut. T. Graves, Mediter.
- Beagle*, 10, sur. v. Com. J. C. Wickham, Australia.
- Bellerophon*, 80, Captain C. J. Austen, Mediter.
- Blazer*, st. v. Lieut. J. M. Wagh, Mediter.
- Bonetta*, 3, Lieut. J. L. R. Stoll, Coast of Africa.
- Boxer*, st. v. Com. P. Bullock, par. ser.
- Brisk*, 3, Lieut. A. Kellett, Coast of Africa.
- Britannia*, 120, Adm. P. C. H. Durham, G.C.B., Capt. H. Dundas, Portsmouth.
- Britomart*, 10, Lieut. O. Stauley, Australia.
- Brune*, 22, Captain J. Clavell, Chatham.
- Calliope*, 28, Captain T. Herbert, S. America.
- Carroll*, st. v. Lieut. J. B. Cragg, West Indies.
- Carysfort*, 26, Capt. H. B. Martin, Mediter.
- Castor*, 36, Capt. E. Collier, Mediterranean.
- Ceylon*, 2, Commodore Sir J. Louis, Bart. rec. sh. Malta.
- Champion*, 18, Com. G. St. V. King, W. Indies.
- Charvdis*, 3, Lieut. Hon. R. Gore, partic. serv.
- Childers*, 16, Cap. Hon. H. Keppel, Portsmouth.
- Cleopatra*, 26, Capt. Hon. G. Grey, S. America.
- Clio*, 16, Com. W. Richardson, Mediterranean.
- Cockatrice*, 6, Lieut. J. Douglas, S. America.
- Comet*, st. v. Lieut. G. T. Gordon, par. ser.
- Comus*, 18, Com. Hon. P. P. Cary, West Indies.
- Confiance*, st. v. Lieut. E. Stopford, Mediter.
- Conway*, 28, Capt. C. R. Drinkwater Bethune, East Indies.
- Cornwallis*, 74, Vice-Adm. Hon. Sir C. Paget, G.C.H., Capt. Sir R. Grant, Kt., W. Indies.
- Crocodile*, 28, Capt. J. S. Polkinghorne, West Indies.
- Cruizer*, 16, Com. R. H. King, East Indies.
- Curlew*, 10, Lieut. E. Norcott, Coast of Africa.
- Dee*, st. v. Com. Jo. Sherer, K.H., particular ser.
- Dido*, 18, Capt. L. Davies, C.B., Mediterranean.
- Dolphin*, 3, Lieut. J. Macdougall, C. of Africa.
- Donegal*, 78, Rear-Adm. Sir J. A. Ommaney, Capt. J. Drake, Lisbon station.
- Dublin*, 50, Vice-Adm. Sir G. E. Hammond, Bart., K.C.B., Capt. R. Tait, Portsmouth.
- Echo*, st. v. Lieut. W. James, West Indies.
- Edinburgh*, 74, Capt. W. W. Henderson, K.H., particular serv.
- Electra*, 18, Com. W. Preston, South America.
- Expoir*, 10, Lieut. J. T. Paulson, Lisbon.
- Excellent*, 76, Capt. T. Hastings, Portsmouth.
- Fair Rosamond*, Lieut. W. B. Oliver, Coast of Africa.
- Fairy*, 10, sur. v. Capt. W. Hewett, Woolwich.
- Favourite*, 18, Com. W. Croker, East Indies.
- Firefly*, st. v. Lieut. J. Pearce, Mediterranean.
- Flamer*, st. v. Lieut. J. M. Potbury, W. Indies.
- Fly*, 18, Com. R. Elliott, South America.
- Forester*, 3, Lieut. C. Y. Campbell, actg., Coast of Africa.
- Griffon*, 3, Lieut. J. G. D'Urban, West Indies.
- Harlequin*, 16, Com. J. E. Erskine, Mediteran.
- Harpy*, 10, Lieut. J. S. Elliot, West Indies.
- Harrier*, 18, Com. W. H. H. Carew, S. America.
- Hastings*, 74, Captain F. E. Loch, part. serv.
- Hazard*, 16, Com. J. Wilkinson, Mediter.
- Herald*, 18, Capt. Jas. Nias, Portsmouth.
- Heiculus*, 74, Capt. J. T. Nicolas, C.B., K.H., par. ser.
- Hornet*, 6, Lieut. H. Baillie, West Indies.
- Howe*, 120, Vice-Adm. Sir R. Otway, Bt. K.C.B., Capt. C. H. Paget, Sheerness.
- Hyacinth*, 18, Com. W. Warren, East Indies.
- Imogene*, 28, Capt. H. W. Bruce, S. America.
- Inconstant*, 36, Capt. D. Pring, particular serv.
- Lark*, 4, sur. v. Lieut. T. Smith, W. Indies.
- Lane*, 18, Com. P. J. Blake, East Indies.
- Leveret*, 10, Lieut. C. J. Bosanquet, Coast of Africa.
- Lightning*, st. v. Lt. Jas. Shambler, partic. serv.
- Lily*, 16, Com. J. Reeve, South America.
- Lynx*, 3, Lieut. H. Broadhead, Coast of Africa.
- Madagascar*, 46, Capt. P. P. Wallis, partic. serv.
- Magicienne*, 24, Capt. G. W. St. John Mildmay, Lisbon station.
- Magnificent*, 4, Commodore P. J. Douglas, rec. ship, Jamaica.
- Magpie*, 4, sur. v. Lieut. T. S. Brock, Mediter.
- Malabar*, 74, Captain Ed. Harvey, partic. serv.
- Medea*, st. v. Com. J. N. Nott, partic. serv.
- Mezara*, st. v. Lieut. H. C. Goldsmith, Medit.
- Melville*, 74, Rear-Adm. Hon. G. Elliott, C.B., Capt. Hon. R. S. Dundas, Cape of Good Hope and Coast of Africa.
- Meteor*, st. v. Lieut. R. D. Pritchard, part. serv.
- Minden*, 74, Capt. A. R. Sharpe, C.B., Plymouth.
- Modeste*, 18, Com. H. Eyres, Portsmouth.
- Nautilus*, 10, Lieut. G. Beauloy, Coast of Africa.
- Nimrod*, 20, Com. J. Fraser, W. Indies.
- North Star*, 28, Commodore Lord John Hay, C.B., particular ser.
- Partridge*, 10, Lieut. W. Morris, Portsmouth.
- Pearl*, 20, Com. Lord C. E. Paget, W. Indies.
- Pelican*, 16, Com. H. Popham, Coast of Africa.
- Pelorus*, 16, Com. F. Harding, East Indies.
- Pembroke*, 74, Capt. F. Moresby, C.B., Medit.
- Phoenix*, st. v. Com. W. H. Henderson, partic. serv.
- Pickle*, 6, Lieut. P. Hast, W. Indies.
- Pique*, 26, Capt. E. Boxer, particular serv.
- Pluto*, steam-ves., Lieut. W. V. Lee, partic. ser.
- President*, 52, Rear-Adm. C. B. Ross, C.B., Capt. J. Scott, South America.
- Princess Charlotte*, 104, Adml. Hon. Sir R. Stopford, G.C.B., Capt. A. Faushawe, Med.
- Pylades*, 18, Com. W. L. Castle, Coast of Africa.
- Rochester*, Com. H. W. Crauford, West Indies.
- Racer*, 16, Com. J. Hope, West Indies.
- Rainbow*, 28, Capt. T. Bennett, Portsmouth.
- Raleigh*, 16, Capt. M. Quin, East India.
- Rapid*, 10, Lieut. —, Mediter.
- Rattlesnake*, 28, Capt. W. Hobson, E. Indies.
- Raven*, 4, sur. v. Lieut. G. A. Bedford, C. of Africa.
- Rhadamanthus*, st. v. Com. A. Wakefield, Mediterranean.
- Ringlove*, 16, Com. H. S. Nixon, W. Indies.
- Rodney*, 92, Capt. Hyde Parker, Mediter.
- Rover*, 18, Com. Chas. Eden, South America.
- Royal Adelaide*, 104, Adm. Lord A. Beaclerk, G.C.B., G.C.H.; Capt. Sir Wm. Elliott, C.B., K.C.H., Plymouth.
- Royal George*, yacht, Capt. Lord A. Fitzclarence, G.C.H., Portsmouth.
- Royal Sovereign*, yacht, Capt. Sup. S. Jackson, C.B., Pembroke.
- Royalist*, 10, Lieut. Hon. E. Plankett, partic. serv.
- Russell*, 74, Capt. Sir W. H. Dillon, K.C.H., Lisbon Station.

Salamander, st. v. Com. S. C. Dacres, Lisbon station.
 Samarang, 28, Capt. W. Broughton, S. America.
 San Josef, 110, Capt. J. Hancock, C.B., guard-ship, Plymouth.
 Sapphire, 28, Capt. R. F. Rowley, Mediterran.
 Sappho, 16, Com. T. Fraser, West Indies.
 Saracen, 10, Lieut. H. W. Hill, Co. of Africa.
 Satellite, 18, Com. I. Robb, West Indies.
 Savage, 10, Lieut. Hon. E. R. Curzon, par. ser.
 Scorpion, 10, Lieut. C. Gayton, Mediterranean.
 Scout, 18, Com. R. Cralgio, Coast of Africa.
 Seylla, 16, Com. Hon. J. Denman, Lisbon sta.
 Seaflower, 4, Lieut. J. Roche, Portsmouth.
 Seringapatam, 46, Capt. J. Leith, West Indies.
 Serpent, 16, Com. R. L. Warren, W. Indies.
 Skipjack, 5, Lieut. J. J. Robinson, W. Indies.
 Snake, 16, Com. A. Milne, West Indies.
 Sparrow, 10, Lieut. R. Loweney, South America.
 Sparrowhawk, 16, Com. J. Shepley, S. Ameri.
 Spider, 6, Lieut. J. O'Reilly (a) South America.
 Spitfire, st. v. 6, Lieut. A. Kennedy, Mediter.
 Stag, 46, Commodore T. B. Sullivan, C.B., South America.
 Starling, sur. v. Lieut. H. Kellett, S. America.
 Sulphur, 8, sur. v. Com. E. Briche, S. America.
 Talavera, 74, Capt. W. B. Mends, par. service.
 Talbot, 28, Capt. H. J. Codrington, Plymouth.
 Tartarus, st. v. Lieut. G. W. Smith, W. Indies.
 Temeraire, 104, Capt. Sir John Hill, Kt., guard-ship, Shoerness.

Termagant, Lieut. W. J. Williams, Portsmouth.
 Thalia, 46, Rear-Admiral Sir P. Campbell, K.C.B.; Capt. R. Wauchope, Portsmouth.
 Thunder, sur. v. Lieut. E. Barnett, West Indies.
 Trinculo, 16, Com. H. E. Coffin, Lisbon station.
 Tweed, 20, Com. Hon. F. T. Pelham, par. serv.
 Tyne, 28, Capt. J. Townshend, Med.
 Vanguard, 80, Capt. Sir Thos. Fellowes, Kt. C.B. Mediterranean.
 Vestal, 26, Capt. T. W. Carter, West Indies.
 Victor, 16, Coh. R. Crozier, East Indies.
 Victory, 104, Capt. T. Searle, C.B., guard-ship, Portsmouth.
 Viper, 6, Lieut. W. Winniett, Coast of Africa.
 Volage, 28, Capt. H. Smith, East Indies.
 Volcano, st. v. Lieut. Jas. West, Woolwich.
 Wanderer, 16, Com. T. Bushby, West Indies.
 Wasp, 18, Com. Hon. D. W. A. Pelham, Medit.
 Water Witch, 10, Lieut. W. Dickey, C. of Africa.
 Weazle, 10, Lieut. W. M. Ilwaine, Plymouth.
 Wellesley, 74, Rear-Admiral Sir P. L. Maitland, K.C.B.; Capt. T. Maitland, E. Indies.
 William and Mary, yacht, Capt. P. Horuby, Woolwich.
 Winchester, 52, Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir T. B. Capel, K.C.B., Capt. E. Sparshott, K.H., East Indies.
 Wizard, 10, Lieut. T. F. Birch, S. America.
 Wolf, 18, Com. E. Stanley, East Indies.
 Wolverine, 16, Com. Hon. E. Howard, Mediter.
 Zebra, 16, Capt. R. C. McCrea, East Indies.

SHIPS OF WAR COMMISSIONED AS PACKETS.

Alert, Lieut. C. H. Norrington.
 Bilseis, Lieut. John Downey.
 Delight, Lieut. J. Moore (b).
 Express, Lieut. W. G. Croke.
 Goldfinch, Lieut. Edw. Collier.
 Hope, Lieut. W. L. Rees.
 Lapwing, Lieut. F. R. Coghlan.
 Linnet, Lieut. W. Downey.
 Lyra, Lieut. W. Fortester.
 Magnet, Lieut. S. Griffith.
 Mutine, Lieut. Richard Pawle.
 Nightingale, Lieut. G. Fortescue.

Opossum, Lieut. Robt. Peter.
 Pandora, Lieut. R. W. Innes.
 Pigeon, Lieut. W. Luce.
 Ranger, Lieut. J. H. Turner.
 Reindeer, Lieut. H. P. Dicken.
 Seagull, Lieut. J. Parsons.
 Sheldrake, Lieut. A. R. L. Passingham.
 Skylark, Lieut. C. P. Iadd.
 Spey, Lieut. Rob. R. James.
 Star, Lieut. C. Smith.
 Swift, Lieut. D. Welch.
 Tyrian, Lieut. Ed. Jennings.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

WHITEHALL, April 30.

The Queen has been pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal, authorising and appointing Arthur Duke of Wellington, K.G.; Charles Duke of Richmond, K.G.; Gilbert Earl of Minto, G.C.B.; Robert Viscount Melville, K.T.; the Right Hon. H. Grey (commonly called Viscount Howick); Rowland Lord Hill, G.C.B.; the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere; Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Adam, K.C.B.; Lieut.-Gen. Sir James Kempt, G.C.B.; Vice-Admiral Sir T. Masterman Hardy, Bart.; G.C.B.; Admiral Sir G. Cockburn,

G.C.B.; Lieut.-General Sir Richard Hussey Vivian, Bart., G.C.B.; Major Gen. Sir Alexander J. Dickson, K.C.B.; Major-General Sir H. Hardinge, K.C.B.; and Colonel Sir R. Williams, K.C.B., to be Her Majesty's Commissioners for inquiring into the several modes of promotion and retirement now authorised and granted to the officers of her Majesty's Naval or Military Forces; for ascertaining the comparative situation of the officers in each branch; and for reporting whether, due regard being had to economy and to the efficiency of the service, it may be practicable and expedient to make any and what changes in the present system.

NAVY.

PROMOTIONS.

TO BE LIEUTENANTS.

Benjamin Fox.
 W. J. C. Clifford.
 J. J. B. E. Frow.
 Robt. Pipon.
 L. Hawker.
 Edwd. Tatham.
 Henry Barnett Davis.
 Colin Y. Campbell.

TO BE SURGEONS.

Alex. Cross.
 J. Wilson Elliott.

APPOINTMENTS.

CAPTAINS.

Jas. Nias Herald.
 C. H. Williams Tribune.

COMMANDERS.

W. Shephard Rodney.
 F. M. Boulton Jazett.

LIEUTENANTS.

G. Harper Malabar.
 G. C. Adams Madagascar.
 E. Peirse Ditto.
 G. D. O'Callaghan Talbot.

W. McIlwaine.....Weazle.
 J. L. R. Stoll...to com. Bonetta.
 W. Grettton.....Coast Guard.
 W. T. Bellairs.....Ditto.
 W. G. Hemsworth.....Ditto.
 Hon. M. Kerr....(sup.) Wellesley.
 J. B. Cragg.....to com. Carron.
 L. Hawker.....Serpent.
 B. A. Wake.....Cornwallis.
 H. St. John Georges.....Ditto.
 A. Mellersh.....Ditto.
 Jas. West.....to com. Volcano, st.-ves.
 J. A. Abbott.....Tineulo.
 C. Y. Campbell.....actg. Forester.
 W. Boys.....Tyne.

MASTERS.

— Mallard.....actg. Crocodile.
 W. C. Middlemist.....Bellerophon.

SURGEONS.

R. Maxwell.....Talbot.
 Geo. Johnstone.....Chatham Dock Yd.
 John Crocket.....Plymouth Hosp.
 Peter Suther.....Portsmouth Duck
 Yard.
 T. Miller.....Victory.
 D. R. G. Walker.....actg. Thalia.

ASSISTANT-SURGEONS.

F. N. Slight.....Madagascar.
 J. Findlay.....Arrow.
 R. W. Martin.....(add.) Royal Adelaide.
 — Shortland, M.D.....Ditto.
 W. Woods, M.D.....Britannia.
 J. Reid.....Ditto.
 R. Barnard.....Ditto.
 A. C. Macleary.....Ternagant.
 W. Roberts.....(add.) Cornwallis.
 W. Crofton.....Melville.
 F. C. Easton.....Ditto.

W. Bateman.....Curlew.
 H. G. G. Harrison.....Pylades.
 C. D. Steel.....Bonetta.
 D. Ritchie.....Haslar Hospital.
 Alex. Stewart.....Ranger.

PURSER.

— Jones.....North Star.

CHAPLAIN.

Rev. P. Somerville.....Bellerophon.

ROYAL MARINES.

Lieut.-Col. T. A. Parko, C.B., to be Col. and
 Second Commandant, vice Bevianna, ret.
 Capt. and Brevet-Major T. Peebles, to be Lieut.-
 Col. vice C. Menzies to Art.
 First-Lieut. C. Clarke, to be Capt., vice Peebles.
 First-Lieut. A. Jervis, to be Capt., vice Devon,
 ret.
 First-Lieut. R. K. Barnes, to be Capt., vice
 Mascall, ret.
 First-Lieut. and Adjut. J. Law, to be Capt., vice
 Hendry, ret.
 First-Lieut. C. R. Miller, to be Capt., vice
 Galloway, ret.
 First-Lieut. Isaac Toby, to be Capt.
 Second-Lieut. L. G. F. March, to be First-
 Lieut., vice Clarke.
 Second-Lieut. C. J. Hadfield, to be First-Lieut.,
 vice Jervis.
 Second-Lieut. W. S. Budd, to be First-Lieut.,
 vice Barnes.
 Second-Lieut. W. P. Stevens, to be First-Lieut.,
 vice Law.
 Second-Lieut. R. C. Spalding, to be First-Lieut.,
 vice Miller.
 Richard Farmer, William Elliott, and C. W.
 Adair, to be Second-Lieutenants.

ARMY.

DOWNING-STREET, April 20.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to
 nominate and appoint Lieut.-General Sir F. P.
 Robinson, K.C.B., to be Knight Grand Cross of
 the Bath. And her Majesty has further been
 pleased to appoint Major-Generals Lord Charles
 Manners and Sir James Macdonnell Com-
 panions of the Bath, to be Knights Commanders
 of the said Order.

WAR OFFICE, April 24.

11th Light Dragoons—Major Henry Fane,
 from 9th Foot, to be Lieut.-Colonel, by purch.
 vice Brutton, who retires.

14th Light Dragoons—Quartermaster William
 Clarke, to be Adjutant, with the rank of
 Cornet, vice Leary, promoted; Quartermaster,
 Samuel Brodribb, from 72nd Foot, to be Quar-
 termaster, vice Clarke.

9th Foot—Capt. George Lenox Davis, to be
 Major, by purch., vice Fane, promoted in 11th
 Light Dragoons; Lieut. Arthur Harper, to be
 Captain, by purch., vice Davis; Ensign Charles
 Elmhirst, to be Lieut. by purch., vice Harper;
 George Pearson, Gent., to be Ensign, by purch.
 vice Elmhirst.

22nd—Lieut. Waldron Barrs Kelly, to be
 Adjutant, vice Chalmers, who resigns the
 Adjutancy only.

42nd—Capt. William Beales, from h.p. Unat.
 to be Captain, vice James Edward Alexander,
 who exchanges; Ensign Atholl Wentworth
 Macdonald, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Colin
 George Campbell, who retires; Sir Frederick
 William Duubar, Bart., to be Ensign, by purch.
 vice Macdonald.

71st—Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Henry Ellard,
 from h.p. Unat. to be Major, vice Charles
 Stewart, who exchanges; Captain William
 Denny, to be Major, by purch. vice Ellard, who
 retires; Lieut. Sir Hew Dalrymple, Bart., to be
 Capt. by purch. vice Denny; Ensign Augustus
 Terriek Hamilton, to be Lieut. by purch. vice
 Dalrymple; Redmond Rochfort Unacke, Gent.
 to be Ensign, by purch. vice Hamilton; Ser-
 jeant-Major William Miller, to be Quar-
 termaster, vice Brodribb, appointed to the 14th
 Light Dragoons.

GARRISONS.—The Reverend William Beattie
 Smith, to be Chaplain to the Garrison of Edin-
 burgh Castle, vice Home, deceased.

WAR OFFICE, April 27.

4th Dragoon Guards—Cornet Gustavus Roch-
 fort to be Lieut. by purch. vice Jones, who
 retires; George Thomson Jacob, Gent., to be
 Cornet by purch. vice Rochfort; Lieut. Charles
 Parke Ibbetson to be Adjutant, vice Gosset,
 who resigns the Adjutancy only.

8th Foot—Lieut. Edward Harris Greathed to
 be Capt. by purch. vice Pringle, who retires;
 Ensign Hugh Hill to be Lieut. by purch. vice
 Greathed; Pennant Athelwold Ironmonger,
 Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Hill.

20th—Lieut. Hugh Dennis Crofton, from 56th
 Foot, to be Lieut. vice Hollingsworth, who ex-
 changes.

56th—Lieut. Henry Hollingsworth, from 20th
 Foot, to be Lieut. vice Crofton, who exchanges.

24th—Ensign Thomas Fowles Seale to be
 Lieut. by purch. vice Lecky, who retires;
 Morgan Osborne, Gent. to be Ensign, by purch.
 vice Seale.

98th—Lieut. Charles Granet to be Capt. by purch. vice Fielding, who retires; Ensign Thomas Henton Lovett, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Granet; John Rivett Carnac, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Lovett.

Brevet—Major Francis Rawdon Chesney, Royal Artill. to be Lieut.-Colonel in the Army; Lieut. George Maclean, on h.p. Royal African Colonial Corps, to have the local rank of Capt. during the period of his being employed on the Gold Coast of Africa.

Mem.—Sergeant Major Wm. Miller, who is stated in the Gazette of the 24th April, 1838, to have been appointed Quartermaster in 71st Foot, vice Brodribb, appointed to 14th Light Dragoons, was appointed Quartermaster of 72d Regt., and not 71st Foot.

DOWNING STREET, April 28.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Lieut.-Colonel George Gawler to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the provinces of South Australia; John Hutt, Esq. to be Governor and Commander in Chief of Western Australia; and Henry Light, Esq. to be Governor and Commander in Chief of the Colony of British Guiana and its dependencies.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, April 30.

Royal Regiment of Artillery—Second Capt. Thomas Robert Cookson, to be Captain vice Lawlor, retired on h.p.; First-Lieut. Alexander Tulloh, to be Second-Captain, vice Cookson; Second-Lieut. Anthony Oldfield, to be First-Lieutenant, vice Tulloh.

May 2nd.—The Queen was this day pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon Major Gaspard Le Marchant, 20th Regt., Knight Commander of the Military Order of St. Ferdinand, and Knight of the royal and distinguished Order of Charles III. of Spain.

WAR OFFICE, May 4.

6th Dragoon Guards—Lieut. Wm. Hawkins, from 80th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Stewart, who exchanges; Staff Assist.-Surg. Henry Carline to be Assist.-Surgeon, vice Warren, promoted in 7th Light Dragoons.

6th Dragoon—Surgeon William Daunt, M.D. from h.p. of 7th Dragoons to be Surgeon, vice Callow, deceased.

39th Foot—Capt. William Wood, from 69th Foot, to be Capt. vice Thomas Harrison Kirkley, who retires upon h.p. Unat. receiving the difference.

43th—Lieut. Alexander Murray Tulloch to be Capt. without purch. vice Pigott, dec.

69th—Capt. Lawrence Gronie, from h.p. Unatt. to be Capt. paying the difference, vice Wood, appointed to 39th Foot.

78th—Lieut. George Mitchell to be Capt. without purch. vice Ibrahim, dec.; Ensign Smollett Montgomery Eddington to be Lieut. vice Mitchell; Serjt.-Major Donald McGregor to be Ensign vice Eddington.

80th—Lieut. Arthur Stewart, from 6th Dragoon Guards, to be Lieut. vice Hawkins, who exchanges.

Unatt.—Lieut. John Charles Campbell, from 45th Foot, to be Capt. by purch. vice Tulloch, whose promotion has not taken place.

Hospital Staff—Assist.-Surg. James Anthony Topham, from 10th Foot, to be Assist.-Surgeon to the Forces, vice Carline, appointed to 6th Dragoon Guards.

Garrisons—The Rev. Robert Watson to be Chaplain to the Garrison of Stirling Castle, vice Smith, removed to Edinburgh Castle; Capt. John Andrew Wieburgh, on h.p. Unatt., to be Fort Major at St. John's, Newfoundland, vice Patterson, who resigns.

DOWNING STREET, May 10.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Major John Longley to be Governor of Dominica.

WAR-OFFICE, May 11.

1st Dragoon Guards—Lieut.-Colonel Hon. George Cathcart, from a particular service, to be Lieut.-Colonel, vice Sir George Teesdale, who retires upon h.p. Unatt.

6th Dragoons—Lieut. Wm. Arkwright to be Capt. by purch. vice Waddington, who retires; Cornet Edward Stephen May to be Lieut. by purch. vice Arkwright; Gent. Cadet Henry Dalrymple, from the Royal Mil. Col. to be Cornet by purch. vice May.

10th Light Dragoons—Cornet John Long to be Lieut. by purch. vice Wombwell, who retires; John Wilkie, Gent., to be Cornet by purch. vice Long.

14th Light Dragoons—Assistant-Surg. James Wemyss Moffatt, from 20th Foot, to be Assist.-Surg. vice Hney, dec.

2nd Foot—Ensign John McDonald, from 34th Foot, to be Lieut. without purch., vice Mackenzie, cashiered by the sentence of a General Court Martial.

5th—Lieut. Arthur L'Estrange to be Capt. by purch. vice Mayne, who retires; Second-Lieut. Charles Massey Dawson to be First-Lieutenant by purch. vice L'Estrange; Ensign Charles Davers Osborn, from 11th Foot, to be Second-Lieut. by purch. vice Dawson.

7th—Lieut. Robert Stuart, from 44th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Braudling, appointed Adjut.; Lieut. and Adjutant Thos. Gilley to be Paymaster, vice Blake, appointed Paymaster to 65th Foot; Lieut. Ralph Thomas Brandling to be Adjut. vice Gilley, appointed Paymaster.

11th—Walter Firmin Clerk, Gent., to be Ensign by purch. vice Osborn, appointed to 5th Foot.

20th—Assist.-Surgeon, Andrew Foulis, from Royal African Colonial Corps, to be Assist.-Surg. vice Moffatt, appointed to 14th Light Dragoons.

25th—Ensign Stanhope Mason Gildea to be Lieut. by purch. vice Browne, who retires; Ensign Frederick J. B. Priestley, from 82nd Foot, to be Ensign, vice Gildea.

26th—Lieut. Eyre Lynch, from h.p. 96th Foot, to be Lieut., vice Stroug, appointed Paymaster.

34th—Gent. Cadet John Tryon Still, from the Royal Mil. Col. to be Ensign, without purch. vice McDonald, promoted in 2nd Foot.

38th—Gent. Cadet John R. Jackson, from the Royal Military College, to be Ensign without purch. vice Anderson, who resigns.

44th—Lieut. Edward Mennell, from h.p. of 20th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Stuart, appointed to 7th Foot.

62nd—Ensign George James Fulton to be Lieut. by purch. vice Edwin Scobell, who retires; Sergeant John Dane, from 57th Foot, to be Ensign by purch. vice Fulton.

70th—Ensign Edward Digby Murray to be Lieut. by purch. vice Mordaunt, who retires; Edward Freeman Edwards, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Murray.

73rd—Capt. Charles Frederick Parkinson, from 87th Foot, to be Capt. vice Harvey, who exchanges.

82nd—Osborne West, Gent., to be Ensign by purch. vice Priestley, appointed to 25th Foot.

85th—Captain Robert Cumming Hamilton Gordon, from h.p. Unatt. to be Captain, vice William Harloe Phibbs, who exchanges, receiving the difference; Lieut. A. Coryton to be Capt. by purch. vice Gordon, who retires; Ensign Cholmeley Edward Deing to be Lieut. by purch. vice Coryton; Thomas Christopher

Mytton Lethbridge, Gent., to be Ensign by purch. vice Dering.

87th—Captain Henry H. Harvey, from 73rd Foot, to be Capt. vice Parkinson, who exch.

88th—Gent. Cadet Plomer J. Young, from the Royal Mil. Col., to be Ensign, without purch. vice Naghton, dec.

91st—Ensign Henry J. Savage to be Lieut. by purch. vice Archibald Campbell, who retires; Francis Fraser Stokes, Gent., to be Ensign by purch. vice Savage.

98th—Lieut. George Daeres Waterson to be Capt. by purch. vice Armstrong, who retires; Ensign Daniell Rainier to be Lieut. by purch. vice Paterson; Alexander Stewart, Gent. to be Ensign, by purch. vice Rainier.

2nd West India Regiment—Ensign Anthony Hart Lapalle to be Lieut. without purch. vice Richardson, deceased; Ensign Christopher Foss to be Lieut. by purch. vice Godwin, who retires; Quartermaster John Potts to be Ensign, vice Lapalle; George Howell, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Foss; Serjeant-Major John Harpur to be Quartermaster, vice Potts.

Royal African Colonial Corps—Edward Jas. Burton, M.D., to be Assist.-Surg., vice Foulis, appointed to 20th Foot.

WAR OFFICE, May 2.

Mem.—Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to permit the 1st or Royal Regiment of Dragoons to assume upon its standards, in addition to any other distinctions heretofore granted to the regt. the badge of an Eagle, in commemoration of its having taken a French Eagle at the battle of Waterloo, on 18th June, 1815.

Her Majesty has also been pleased to permit the 20th or East Devonshire Regt. to assume upon its colours and appointments the words "Vimiera" and "Corunna," in commemoration of the gallant services of the Regt. in the battles in which it was engaged, at Vimiera, on 21st Aug. 1808, and at Corunna on 16th Jan. 1809.

[The following is substituted for that which appeared in the Gazette of the 11th inst.]

DOWNING STREET, May 18.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Major John Longley to be Lieutenant-Governor of the Island of Dominica.

WAR OFFICE, May 18.

1st Drag. Guards—Lieut. Hastings David Sands to be Capt. by purch. vice Hughes, who retires; Cornet William Charles Grant to be Lieut. by purch. vice Sands; John Boughton Egerton Ward Boughton Leigh, Gent., to be Cornet by purch. vice Grant.

12th Foot—Lieut. John Maxwell Perceval to be Capt. by purch. vice Elwes, who retires; Ensign Charles Simeon to be Lieut. by purch. vice Perceval; John Marcon, Gent., to be Ensign by purch. vice Simeon.

26th—Ensign John Rodgers to be Lieut. by purch. vice Lynch, who retires; Rich. Palmer Sharpe, Gent., to be Ensign, by purch. vice Rodgers.

27th—Ensign Andrew Vincent Watson to be Lieut. by purch. vice Jones, who retires; James Thring Cox, Gent. to be Ensign, by purch. vice Watson.

44th—Ensign Edward Sandford Cumberland, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Fennell, who retires; Edward Thos. Roberts, Gent., to be Ensign by purch. vice Cumberland.

68th—Lieut. Alfred Edward Hill to be Capt. by purch. vice Graham, who retires; Ensign John Johnston to be Lieut. by purch. vice Hill; Wm. Rhodes, Gent. to be Ensign, by purch. vice Johnston.

73rd—Major Charles Jowett Vander Maulen, from h.p. Unatt. to be Major, vice Alexander Duke Hamilton, who exch.

76th—John De Verd Leigh, Gent. to be Assist.-Surg. vice Melliss, dec.

78th—Capt. Jonathan Forbes to be Major by purch. vice Adams, who retires; Lieut. John Burns to be Capt. by purch. vice Forbes; Ensign Frederick Edmund Caldwell, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Burns; George Horrocks, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Caldwell.

98th—Lieut. Thomas Heaton Lovett to be Adjut. vice Hunter, promoted.

Unatt.—Lieut. Edward Hunter, from 98th Foot, to be Captain without purch.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 17th, 1837, at Moulmein, East Indies, the Lady of Capt. Clarke, 62nd Regt. of a son.

April 19th, at Titchfield, the Lady of Commander G. Young, R.N. of a son.

April 20th, at Haslar, the Lady of Lieut. W. V. Lee, R.N., of H.M.S. Victory, of a son.

The Lady of Capt. Phillpott, 29th Regt., of a daughter.

At Hillfield, Hants, the Lady of Captain H. B. Mason, R.N., of a son.

April 22nd, at Newbridge, the Lady of Major N. Wilson, K.H., 77th Regt., of a son.

April 27th, in Upper Brook Street, the Lady of Captain Mason, 4th (King's Own) Regt., of a daughter.

At Maidstone, the Lady of Capt. Houston, 4th Light Dragoons, of a son.

At the Doon, King's county, the Lady of Lieut. L. Dickinson, R.N., of a son.

At Castle Bellingham, Ireland, the Lady of Major Smith, 14th Light Dragoons, of a son.

April 29th, at Norfolk Place, Southsea, the Lady of Lieut. J. Stone, R.N., of a son.

April 29th, at Torpoint, near Devonport, the Lady of Lieut. G. Rose, R.N., of a daughter.

At Newcastle the Lady of Capt. Jenkins 25th Regt. of a son.

May 7th, the Lady of J. Jackson, Esq., Master of H.M.S. Alligator, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Bangalore, Capt. Viney, 39th Regt. to Clara, third daughter of the late Joseph Warner, Esq., of Palace Cottage, Chudleigh.

At Toronto, Upper Canada, Capt. F. Helkett, Coldstream Guards, A.D.C. to his Excellency Sir F. B. Head, to Elizabeth M. Moodie, daughter of the late Colonel Moodie.

At Bermuda, Lieut. Borton, 30th Regt. to Miss Lucy A. Hinson.

At the British Embassy, Paris, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Doyle, K.C.H., to Mrs. Steer.

At Freshford, Commander L. H. Wray, R.N., to Charlotte Kilza, eldest daughter of Commander Burt, R.N.

H. Taylor, 85th Light Infantry, eldest son of E. Taylor, Esq., formerly of Bifrons, Kent, and nephew to Lieut.-General Sir Herbert Taylor.

to Harriet, fourth daughter of the late G. J. Legh, Esq., of High Legh.

At Brookhill, near Omagh, Surg. J. Moody, R.N., to Flora, only child of the late Captain Donald McDonald, 31st Regt.

At St. George's, Hanover Square, Major Hort Macdowall, 44th Foot, to Elenora, daughter of D. M. Grant, Esq., of Armidilly.

At St. Clement Dances, Lieut. E. J. Hopkins, Esq., R.N., to Elizabeth, widow of the late Isaac Field, Esq.

At Brading, Isle of Wight, Col. Noel Harris, to the Countess Dowager of Huntingdon.

April 26th, at Christ Church, Marylebone, Commander H. Byres, of H.M.S. Modeste, to Ellen Jane, daughter of the late W. Parker, Esq. of Dorset Square.

May 3rd, at Titchfield, Captain James A. Murray, R.N., to Julia, daughter of the late John Dolme, Esq., of Cumball, Fareham.

At Dumfries, Captain Fennell, R.N., to Catherine, daughter of the late Colonel Archibald McMurdo, of Lotus, Kircudbright.

May 17th, at St. George's Church, Hanover Square, Lieut. S. G. Pullen, R.N., to Isabella Jane, second daughter of H. Duncan, Esq., M.D., of Park Street, Grosvenor Square.

DEATHS.

Feb. 26th, at the Cape of Good Hope of consumption, Commander Barrow, R.N., late of H.M.S. Rose, aged 28 years, son of Sir John Barrow, Bart., Secretary of the Admiralty.

At the Cape of Good Hope, Lieut.-Colonel Cramer, Unatt.

Feb. —, on the Coast of Africa, of yellow fever, Assist.-Surgeon C. R. B. Jolly, of H.M.S. Bonetta.

March 31st, at Woodstock, Upper Canada, Thomas George Armstrong, Esq., Major of the Militia of that district, and late Capt. 66th Regt.

Lieut.-Col. Soest, h.p. 4th Line British German Legion.

Capt. Mould, h.p. Royal Marines, At Finchley, Capt. Masters, h.p. 40th Regt. At Birkenhead, Berwickshire, Capt. Shillinglaw, h.p. 104th Regt.

Lieut. Jephson, Royal Artillery, At Haslar Lunatic Asylum, Lieut. Twentyman, h.p. Royal Marines.

Lieut. Wood, h.p. 18th Regt.

Lieut. Scott, h.p. 27th Regt.

Lieut. Barnett, h.p. 40th Regt.

Lieut. Ormiston, h.p. 91st Regt.

Lieut. Newman, h.p. 7th Garrison Battalion.

Lieut. and Adjut. Raynes, h.p. Rec. Dist.

Lieut. Ebell, h.p. 7th Line British German Legion.

Lieut. Bertram, h.p. 8th Line British German Legion.

Lieut. Leibing, h.p. Brunswick Cavalry.

Lieut. Meyer, h.p. Brunswick Infantry.

Paymaster Jones, h.p. 90th Regt.

At Exeter Paymaster Shapter, h.p. Corsican Rangers.

Staff-Surgeon Maiben, h.p.

In London, Surgeon Ramsay, M.D., h.p. 40th Regt.

Staff Assist.-Surgeon Sparrow.

On passage from Jamaica to England on board the Maitland transport, Lieut. James Barber, R.N.

April 7th, at Guildford, Surrey, Lieut. H. Gird, late 23rd Regt.

At Shalloway, Formanagh, Lieut. P. Cowen, formerly 13th Lancers.

April 14th, drowned by the upsetting of a boat, after the vessel had run on shore on the Coast of Bona, on her return from Malta to Tunis, Lieut. the Honourable Graham Hay St. Vincent de Ros Kinnaird, R.N., commanding H.M.'s brig Rapid. Upon this tragical event we have received the following communication:

"MR. EDITOR.—Among the names of those officers who have been lost to their country during the last month will be found that of Lieut. the Hon. Graham Kinnaird, commanding her Majesty's brig Rapid, on the Mediterranean station.

"This most promising and talented young officer having, under circumstances of considerable difficulty and danger, by a combination of firmness and intrepidity saved the lives of all those under his command, when his ship was stranded on the coast of Tunis, was drowned by his boat upsetting in a heavy surf, when taking measures for getting her again afloat.

"Thus, Sir, has unfortunately been lost to his profession one whose many excellent and amiable qualities had excited in the minds of all who knew him the just expectancy that he would, at some future time, have placed himself among those who have served to raise and to maintain the high character of our naval service.

"When in command of the Rapid his merits have been noticed and acknowledged by his Commanders-in-Chief Admiral Sir Josias Rowley, and Sir Robert Stopford, officers whose capacity to appreciate them none will be found to question. He has been known to me from nearly his first entrance into the Service, and served under my command in the Dispatch for three years and a half, the two last of which as First-Lieutenant. In this station his active and zealous discharge of his duties, united to a degree of forbearance seldom found in so young an officer, and a most gentlemanly manner to all, had gained him the esteem and regard of every class of his ship-mates. Having, from our relative positions in the ship, the best opportunity of becoming aware of the many excellencies of his character, and having been indebted to him more than any other for the exercise of them, I cannot deny myself the melancholy gratification of thus briefly endeavouring to do justice to the memory of one whose untimely fate, both as a friend and an officer, I, in common with all who knew him, most deeply lament.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"GEO. DANIELL,

"Late Commander of H.M.S. Dispatch, Brighton, May 16th, 1838."

At Bertie House, Leamington, after a short illness, Colonel George O'Halloran, late 4th or King's Own Regt., no less distinguished in his career as a brave and enterprising officer, than as a highly honourable and courteous gentleman. He served originally in the 54th, under Sir Ralph Abercrombie, in Egypt, and was wounded at the battle of Alexandria; subsequently with equal distinction throughout the Peninsular war, under Sir John Moore and the Duke of Wellington, having been again wounded at Corunna and Salamanca, in which action the 4th bore a foremost part.

April 16th, at Summerlands, Falmouth, in his 74th year, W. T. Coope, Esq., Deputy Commissary-General.

At Greenock, Lieut. Duncan Blair, R.N.

April 19th, at West Looe, suddenly, retired Commander P. Prynne, R.N. He first joined the service in 1793, as Midshipman, and served successively in that capacity in the Adventure, Crescent, Monarch, Queen Charlotte, and Hyæna. In 1795 he was at the taking of the Dutch squadron at the Cape of Good Hope, under Lord Keith; he also served in America and in the Channel. In 1798 he received an acting order as Lieutenant from his Captain, the Hon. C. Paget, of the Penelope, stationed at the Western Isles. In 1799 he acted by a similar order in the Brilliant, under Sir H. Pellew, at Newfoundland and Quiberon Bay;

and in October, 1800, the Admiralty, in consideration of services, confirmed him in his rank as Lieutenant, and appointed him to the *Barakil*, in which ship he was ordered on the Expedition to Egypt—was at the landing of the troops, and on shore with the army in the battles of the 13th and 21st March; he afterwards volunteered, and served up the Nile in gun-boats, until the surrender of Grand Cairo, on which occasion his conduct was warmly acknowledged by his superiors, and the Grand Seigneur presented him with a Gold medal. In 1803 he was appointed to the *Achilles*, Sir R. King, as Second-Lieut., and afterwards First, in which capacity he was at the battle of Trafalgar, where he received two wounds. The last ship he served in was the *Espegle*, as First-Lieutenant, and retired on half-pay when paid off in 1807. At the general promotion that took place in 1830, he obtained the rank of retired commander.

April 28th, Retired Rear-Admiral Cornelius Quilton, aged 69.

April 30th, Lieut.-Col. C. T. Talbot, late Scots Fusilier Guards.

At Leamington, Capt. J. Macdonald, late 79th Highlanders.

At Seymour Villa, near Bristol, Capt. James Barker, R.N. He entered her Majesty's Service in June, 1780, on board the *Solebay*, then commanded by Captain Everett; and on the 10th of the following Dec., when off the Isle of Wight, she captured, after an action, the French privateer *La Comte de Bussanoura*, carrying 20 guns; was wrecked during an action off St.

Kitts, in the West Indies, when serving under Sir Samuel Hood. Served in the *Prudent*, 64, Capt. A. Barelly, in the action with *Compte de Grasse*, on 25th and 26th Jan., 1782; also in the *Russell*, 74, on 28th and 29th May, and 1st June, 1794. Was with Capt. Payne in the *Jupiter*, 50, and sent by him to the yacht which brought the Princess Caroline of Brunswick from Cuxhaven to London; from that period served with Sir James Saumarez in the *Orion*, 74, until made a Commander in Oct., 1798; during which time was in the actions of 23rd June, 1795, under Lord Bridport, and assisted in the capture of three line-of-battle ships; also at the defeat of the Spaniards, 14th Feb., 1797, under the Earl of St. Vincent; and at the memorable battle of the Nile under Lord Nelson in August, 1798; subsequently he commanded the *Morrison*, armed ship, for the protection of the trade between Bristol and Swansea, was posted 12th August, 1819; since which he never had any public employment.

May 4th, at Stoke, Capt. Percival Ramsay, late 87th Regt.

May 5th, at Exeter, Lieut. James Foster, R.N.

May 6th, at Clifton, near York, Lieut. Thos. Robinson, R.N.

Surgeon Heath, R.N.

May 12th, at Jersey, Major-General Archibald Campbell, C.B., Lieut.-Governor of that Island.

At Stulton, near Ipswich, Rear-Admiral W. H. Daniel, aged 75.

15th Dublin, Capt. J. D. Blundell, late Royal Artillery.

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER,

KEPT AT THE OBSERVATORY OF CAPT. W. H. SMYTH, AT BEDFORD.

APRIL, 1838.	Six's Thermometer.		At 3 P. M.			Pluvia- meter Inches.	Evapora- tor Inches.	Winds at 3 P. M.
	Maxim. Degrees.	Minim. Degrees.	Barom. Inches.	Thermo. Degrees	Hygrom. Farts.			
1	46.7	37.7	30.25	42.9	510	—	.060	N.N.E. fr. breeze, cloudy
2	4.8	32.7	30.00	41.8	523	—	.065	N. light breeze, overcast
3	47.3	36.9	30.00	47.0	526	—	.075	S.S.W. calm, beautiful
4	49.9	40.2	29.97	49.0	533	—	.080	S. fresh breeze, fine
5	52.0	44.0	29.95	51.8	545	—	.080	S.S.W. clear weather
6	56.2	51.8	29.95	53.9	642	.575	.070	S.W. light breeze, cloudy
7	58.3	49.3	29.37	51.5	662	.907	.160	S.W. fresh breeze, drizzly
8	51.7	44.8	29.35	45.2	628	.121	.060	W.N.W. stg. gales, cloudy
9	47.8	40.2	29.94	45.5	626	—	.100	N.N.E. light airs, fine
10	54.8	41.0	30.05	50.8	641	—	.106	S. light breeze, beautiful
11	57.9	48.4	30.05	57.5	606	—	.140	S.S.W. magnificent w.
12	57.8	47.8	30.19	54.5	569	—	.165	W.N.W. strong gales
13	54.9	40.8	30.13	48.5	510	—	.140	W. light airs, fine
14	53.8	42.5	30.00	49.3	520	—	.085	W. by N. light breezes
15	51.4	45.0	29.75	50.8	501	—	.070	W.N.W. furious gales
16	50.8	40.1	29.70	45.4	509	.013	.065	W.N.W. stg. gales, cloudy
17	45.7	38.5	29.70	41.8	531	.098	.050	N. calm, light rain
18	41.8	37.7	29.78	41.0	551	.172	.045	W.N.W. fr. breeze, sleet
19	42.6	37.6	29.80	42.0	557	.100	.065	N.W. light breezes
20	43.9	37.7	29.82	43.3	562	.032	.060	N. fresh breezes
21	45.5	38.2	29.61	45.5	561	.686	.100	S.S.W. lt. airs, fine
22	45.8	39.2	29.81	43.5	566	.022	.060	S.S.E. fresh breezes
23	47.8	41.5	29.38	47.3	570	—	.080	S.W. calm, beautiful w.
24	46.8	43.4	29.63	46.1	585	.125	.060	E. light airs, variable
25	47.6	44.8	29.84	46.0	633	.022	.045	E.N.E. fr. br., overcast
26	46.4	44.2	29.96	45.5	664	.047	.035	N.N.E. strong breeze
27	45.9	40.8	29.96	45.7	594	—	.060	N. strong breeze, variable
28	48.3	39.0	29.80	48.0	568	—	.080	N. beautiful weather
29	48.1	39.2	29.75	45.2	479	—	.100	W.N.W. light breezes
30	46.6	41.5	29.56	45.0	515	.030	.115	W.S.W. fr. breezes, var.

OUR NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

THE late revolt in Canada, of which we gave a brief review in our last Number, and the events to which it has given rise on its frontier having rendered that province a theme of general as well as professional interest, and as it may be the desire of many to acquire such local information as can be applied to recent occurrences, and account for their cause, without wading through all the conflicts and disputes of opposing parties from the conquest of the country to the present period, a short sketch of Canada, showing its progress and some of the principal events which have taken place from its discovery to the late rebellion, may be both useful and interesting. To this rapid glance we have annexed a portion of the concluding letters from Nova Scotia, by our well-informed correspondent in that country, whose practical remarks on the Boundary Question we regret being under the necessity of postponing till next month.

Canada has been rendered memorable on the pages of British history by the brilliant conquest achieved on the plains of Abraham, near Quebec, by the immortal Wolfe, who died in the arms of victory on the 12th September, 1759, after having added to Great Britain this valuable portion of her empire. It is situated in between 45 and 49 degrees of north latitude, and 60 and 90 degrees of west longitude, on a line running nearly north-east to south-west. It was discovered by the enterprising French navigator, Jacques Carlier, who coasted the gulf (which he named St. Lawrence) in 1534; and the following year, proceeding 400 miles up the river St. Lawrence from its entrance, he discovered the point of land now known as Québec, so named, it is supposed, from an exclamation of his sailors, on perceiving it,—“*Quel bec!*” and, pursuing his course 180 miles further along the north shore of the St. Lawrence, arrived at an Indian village called “*Hochelaga*,” but which he designated “*Mont Royal*,” from the mountain in its rear, and upon the site of which now stands the wealthy and flourishing city of Montreal.

The foundation of the city of Quebec, the capital of Lower Canada, was laid on the 3rd July, 1608, on the summit of a granite rock, called “*Cape Diamond*” (from the quantity of quartz in its composition), which rises 345 feet above the level of the water. The ceremony was performed by Monsieur Samuel de Champlain, an associate of Sieur de Montz, who had received from Henry IV. of France a commercial charter, not limited, however, to trade and colonization, but embracing also an ecclesiastical character, by enjoining them to encourage and promote the conversion of the Indians to the Catholic faith.

Champlain, from his great activity, disinterestedness, and military skill, was afterwards appointed governor, and maintained through a series of difficulties the government of the colony, which (with the exception of a short interval) he retained till his death, with credit to himself, prosperity to the settlement, and honour to his country.

As the highest recommendation to every enterprise, in those days, was to exhibit in it an apparent zeal, and subserviency to religion, in 1614 four Recollet priests were sent to Canada at the expense of the newly-formed association of merchants at St. Maloes, as a mission to propagate the Catholic tenets among the Indians, which order after-

wards became an extensive religious community, although inferior in number and influence to the Jesuits, three of whom arrived at Quebec in 1624, and laid the foundation of that afterwards powerful order in Canada.

The settlement being exposed to great annoyance and danger, from the tribe of Iroquois Indians, Champlain built, during this year, a stone fort, which added greatly to the comfort and security of the settlers.

Two years after the Jesuit mission was strengthened by the arrival in Canada of several of their brethren, accompanied by a number of mechanics, after which event Quebec began to assume the appearance of a town; but jealousies and disputes having gradually become so prevalent among the colonists as to impede the advancement of the colony, another expedient was resorted to by the minister of commerce in France (the Cardinal de Richelieu), who established a new and extensive association known as "the company of one hundred partners," to whom, by a royal edict, dated 19th April, 1627, the colony was granted, with all its commercial privileges, as a feudal seignior, exacting merely the usual service of fealty and homage to the King; with an understanding, nevertheless, that the primary object of the grant was the conversion to Christianity of the Indians.

The following year a serious rupture took place between England and France, from the former espousing the cause of the French Protestants, and caused an expedition to Canada in 1629, which resulted in the capture of Quebec by the English, but who only retained it two years, when, peace having been restored between the two countries, Quebec became by negotiation the property of its old masters.

From this time the Jesuit mission began to extend, and increase in influence and power; but, instead of directing their energies to the purpose for which they were established in the colony, and limiting their efforts to the religious duty of converting the Indians, to which by their commission they were especially enjoined, they mixed with their apparent zeal a large portion of temporal policy, and were chiefly occupied in maturing plans for their future aggrandisement; and, having in the year 1635 received from France a very large sum of money, they shortly after erected a college, which since the conquest has been appropriated by the Government as a barrack for the use of the troops; which circumstance was alleged by the factious part of the late House of Assembly as one of their chief grievances, but, fortunately for the country, has not been included in the too generous concessions already made to them.

A momentary gloom was now, unexpectedly, thrown over the colony, by the death of its founder and able protector, Champlain! But the zeal and ambition of the Jesuits continued unabated, and religious establishments under their influence began to be established; and in 1637 the convent of the *Hôtel Dieu*, at Quebec (for the sick of both sexes), was founded by the Duchess d'Aiguillon, governed by a *mère supérieure* and thirty-two nuns. It is a large building, very richly endowed, possessing very valuable lands, and receiving the *lods-et-ventes*, or mutations of real property within the city, and is one of the most useful Catholic institutions in the province. Two years after, the Ursuline convent, near to St. Louis Street, was founded by Madame de la Peltrie, as a religious seminary for females. It is governed by a *supérieure* and

forty-five nuns, and is an institution held in high repute by the Canadians ; but others place a more moderate estimate on the attainments which it affords.

Champlain's successor in the government, Monsieur Montmagny, had not all the capabilities of his predecessor, but was a man of honesty of purpose and great religious zeal. Through his representations the island of Montreal was conceded to Monsieur Maisonneuve and thirty-four associates, and, being afterwards found peculiarly eligible for an ecclesiastical mission, was, on the 15th February, 1644, confirmed by the King to the religious order of St. Sulpicians, at Paris. In the same year the *Hôtel Dieu*, situated in St. Paul and St. Joseph Street, at Montreal, was founded by Madame de Bouillon, for the reception of the sick poor of both sexes, governed by a *supérieure* and thirty-six nuns. It is a very commodious edifice, having lately undergone extensive alterations and repairs, to suit it to the necessities of an increased population, and is a very useful establishment, but, not being so wealthy as its sister community at Quebec, has lately (in common with other similar institutions in the province) felt the omission of that assistance which the legislature annually supplied, till it ceased to perform the duties for which it was constituted.

The St. Sulpicians of Paris, having acquired the seigniority of Montreal, deputed, in 1657, the intelligent Abbé Quetus to proceed to Canada and erect on their property a seminary similar in every respect to their own: to consist of priests of their own order, to be supplied from France as occasion might require ; which regulation, having been rigidly adhered to, has formed a link between France and Canada which its union even with Great Britain has not yet separated.

In 1659 an additional institution was formed at Montreal by Madame Marguerite Bourgeoise, who founded the convent called *Sœurs de la Congrégation*, for the education of female children ; which property, joining in the rear to that of the *Hôtel Dieu*, combines a very extensive lot of ground in the very heart of the city.

The frequent contentions and jealousies between the Jesuits and governors, and the failure of the commercial company in complying with that part of their charter the most strictly enjoined (the religious instruction and conversion of the Indians), together with the manifestly ill effects of that Jesuitical influence which had governed the country for more than a century, induced Louis XIV. to issue a royal edict, dated the 24th February, 1663, accepting from the association the resignation of their charter, and at the same time erecting Canada into a royal government, formed by a governor and council, who were to govern according to the laws and ordinances of France. This salutary change gave a fresh impetus to the settlement of the country ; emigration was promoted on an extensive scale ; and, as a further protection against the incursions of the Indians, the military force was augmented, and a foundation laid for an established population, by locating the discharged soldiers of the different regiments, whose officers had been granted seigniories on condition of their conceding their lands under the feudal tenure, as it now exists ; the conditions of which are,—that the vassal, or censitaire, should pay to the seignior an annual rent of about one bushel of wheat and one dollar per acre on the portion of land held by him ; and that they should grind their grain at the mill of

the seignior (the fourteenth part of which to be deducted by the seignior for grinding the same) and pay also to the seignior the *lod-et-ventes* (which is the twelfth part of the money) on purchase or exchange of real estate within the seignior, with a privilege to the seignior of "retraying" or purchasing for himself the property purchased by any of his censitaires within his seignior, by offering (within forty days after the actual sale) the price bid for it. The seignior, however, seldom avails himself of this privilege, as the exercise of it, although perfectly legal, would not be expedient; but a failure of any of the conditions before noticed is immediately followed by an appeal of the seignior to a court of law, where his rights and privileges are especially admitted before all other claimants, and a judgment in his favour rendered accordingly.

During the year 1663 the seminary of Quebec was founded by Mons. de Petré, for ecclesiastical instruction. It is an extensive building, and situated near the Catholic cathedral, which edifice fronts the market, and is about 216 feet in length, by 108 in breadth, containing a choir, nave, two aisles, and four chapels. In the fitting up of the choir (where mass is celebrated) due regard has been paid to chasteness and simplicity, and the whole interior arrangement has been executed with a taste suited to the solemn pomp of the ceremonies of the Romish church.

The following year exhibited another change in the policy of Canada, the government of France having granted to the French West India Company a monopoly of the whole territory as seigniors of the colony, with powers to administer justice according to the laws of France (and introducing the *coutume de Paris*), form religious establishments, build churches, and protect themselves with their own forces, merely acknowledging, by a small fine, the King as sovereign seignior. The governors, under their authority, were employed in devising means for resisting the attacks of the various Indian tribes, and in placing the colony in a state of defence. Several forts were built by the Marquis de Tracy for this purpose, the necessity for which was shortly after proved by the encounters which took place between the colonial troops and the Indians of the "Five Nations," which continued till about the year 1671, when they became at peace with all those tribes, and wisely took advantage of that favoured interval to establish posts at different parts of their territory, from Quebec to the Falls of St. Mary, which divide Lake Huron from Lake Superior.

Parishes had at that time been established through the different seigniorics: for the proper discipline, therefore, of the church it was considered necessary by the Jesuits, that a spiritual head should be appointed for that purpose, and application was accordingly made to the proper source, which was favourably received, and a bishop shortly after was consecrated to the sacred office, who in 1675 had the second seat in the sovereign council (it is necessary to remark that the King had the previous year resumed the territory previously conceded to the West India Company), and a suitable palace was erected for him, but this edifice, when a constitution was given to Lower Canada, was appropriated to the legislature as a Hall of Assembly, since which period the bishop has resided at the seminary.

An attempt had been made in the year 1662 to provide for a parochial

clergy, by the payment of tithes ; but this tax was not confirmed till the year 1679, when it was limited to the twenty-sixth part of the grain produced on the seigniorial farms : an effort was made some time after to increase the title, but did not succeed. The Catholic clergy, although given the spiritual charge of parishes, are not appointed as rectors, but may rather be considered as missionaries, being placed in a cure by the bishop upon application when a church and the means of supporting a clergyman have been provided, and removeable by him when and where he may think proper. The Canadians are, however, obliged by law to the payment of tithes at the rate before stipulated, and to keep the church and parsonage in a proper state of repair, but the English censitaires are exempt from these demands. .

The French settlers began now to increase in power and ambition, and, having gained some military experience under the administration of Count de Frontenac, in his frequent attacks on the Indians, and vain of the successful defence made by him to the invasion of the British armament from Boston, under Sir William Phipps, did not confine their warfare to the Indians, but, in 1697, meditated an attack upon New York, which was only prevented by the peace which took place that year between France and England ; but this did not quiet the feelings of hostility which still lurked in the bosom of Frontenac, who, in conjunction with the Jesuits, was secretly intriguing with the Indians to destroy their intercourse with the English ; but death put an end to his schemes at Quebec on the 28th November, 1698.

The war between England and France broke out again in 1702, and the following year the Marquis de Vaudreuil assumed the government of Canada, who, pursuing the same system of intrigue with the Indians against the New Englanders as De Frontenac, a second expedition against Quebec left Boston in July, 1711, but, from a combination of inauspicious circumstances, it failed, and the treaty of peace, which took place between Great Britain and France in 1713, left the French again in quiet possession of Canada.

The colony prospered greatly under the active and energetic government of the Marquis de Vaudreuil. Emigration had been much encouraged, commerce greatly increased, the jurisprudence of the country ameliorated, the fortifications of Montreal extended, and the limits of the parishes definitively regulated ; it may, therefore, be readily imagined that his death, which occurred on the 10th of October, 1725, was severely felt, both by the Canadians and the Government of France, and his name justly renowned and venerated by them. He was succeeded the following year by the Marquis de Beauharnois, a natural son of Louis XIV., whose administration was marked by a decided hostility to the New England colonies, exhibited in his secret intrigues with the Indians of the Five Nations against the British colonists, and his attempt to invade their soil. Ambitious for an extension of territory, he gradually made encroachments and advances into the interior of the British possessions, and at length began to interfere much with their interests (particularly in the fur-trade), erecting forts on the life of his assumed territory, both on Lakes Ontario and Champlain, that near the Hudson being still visible at Crown Point, and Fort Niagara on the former lake. The only precautionary measure which appears to have been adopted by the colonists against further encroachment, was the fort built by the British Governor of New York, in 1731, at Oswego,

on Lake Ontario, which was viewed by Beauharnois with much jealousy, and caused him to make frequent representations home, urging upon his Government the necessity of their employing effective means to restrict the British colonists within the line of demarcation then claimed by the Canadians as their lawful boundary ; upon which a clause for establishing a correct line between the English and French territories in America was inserted in the Treaty of Peace, concluded at Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748 ; and the French, anticipating the confirmation of such a line as would confine the English within the limit of their actual settlement, sent out, at the suggestion of Count de Gallissonniere (who had been appointed to succeed Count de Beauharnois), 10,000 settlers, which powerful accession to their population added not a little to their pride and pretension. The principal event, in the domestic economy of the colony, during the administration of Frontenac, was the check given, by a royal edict, to the acquisition of lands by the Jesuits, by which their future acquisitions were to be held in mortmain.

Gallissonniere had given great proofs of his capability as a Governor, and had succeeded in organizing a new colony, composed of Acadians and Canadians, when he was relieved by Monsieur de Jonquiere, a person every way inferior to his predecessor in talent and integrity, who disgraced his government by acts of corruption unworthy a public functionary, and closed his career at Quebec 17th May, 1752, unregretted by every class of his countrymen. His successor in the government was the Marquis du Quesne, whose first act was to strengthen the French territory on the Ohio, by building a fort, which he named after himself, the alleged object being to keep the English within the Alleghany Mountains, which led the English to a similar precaution, by erecting a fort (which they called Necessity) in the immediate vicinity of their jealous neighbours, to prevent them from attempting future incursions on their trading-grounds, and seducing the Indians from the friendly intercourse which then subsisted between them and the British traders ; but a serious quarrel having unfortunately occurred between the two garrisons, which led to the death of one of the French officers, the French commandant eagerly availed himself of the opportunity for breaking this neutrality, and, having a superior force, attacked Fort Necessity, and obliged the British to capitulate. After this event news arrived of a general war in Europe, and also that Du Quesne had been superseded in the government of Canada by the Marquis de Vaudreuil de Cavagnal, who shortly arrived and assumed the government in July, 1755.

An opportunity was very early afforded Vaudreuil to signalize himself in opposing the invasion of General Braddock, who had entered Canada with a small force by a pass of the Alleghany Mountains ; this party Vaudreuil repulsed with great loss, killing General Braddock, and forcing his troops to retreat in great confusion : they fortunately, however, fell back on a large reinforcement, and, being reorganized by General Johnson, repaired their previous reverse of fortune, by gallantly withstanding an attack of a very large force, near Lake George, under the command of General Baron Deiskau, when, after a severe contest, the French retired to Crown Point, leaving their general, who had been severely wounded, and many prisoners, in the hands of the British, for which brilliant success General Johnson was raised to the dignity of a Baronet. The following year General Montcalm, whose valour has been recorded

as well in defeat as in triumph, arrived in Canada with a powerful reinforcement, and commenced his campaign with a series of successes, which raised him, as a soldier, high in the estimation of the Canadians; but a lamentable circumstance took place after his capture of Fort George, which must leave a stain on his military reputation for conducting honourable warfare that can never be obliterated, viz. the massacre of two thousand British troops, by his Indians, after they had been made prisoners; which barbarous act may be said to have resulted in the ultimate loss of Canada to the French, as both the English colonists and British ministry had become so determined to retaliate for such wanton and unprecedented barbarity, that the energies of Lord Chatham, the British minister, were successful in stimulating the Government to send out an armament that should destroy the dominion of France in America. An expedition was, therefore, sent against Quebec, in 1759, under the command of General Wolfe and Admiral Saunders, which was to be combined with a movement of the British colonists on the frontier. Wolfe's first attack upon the French, at Montmorenci, was unsuccessful; but having, through the coolness and intrepidity of his soldiers under cover of the night, made good his landing in that part of the harbour called Wolfe's Cave, and gained the ascent of the heights, he met his antagonists on the plains of Abraham, where, after a severe conflict, in which the conquering and conquered had each to deplore the loss of their brave and intrepid commanders, British valour proved triumphant, and before the pulse of Britain's expiring hero had ceased to throb, victory added another gem to the British Crown. The entire conquest of Canada was not effected till the 8th of September, 1760, on which day Montreal was ceded by capitulation to General Amherst, who the previous year had reduced the Forts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point on Lake Champlain; and Sir William Johnson having the same year taken Fort Niagara, the entire subjugation of Canada was accomplished.

The desire of acquiring territory by any government must be supposed to arise from at least two motives,—the extension of their trade, and the providing an asylum, by emigration, for their surplus population; and, if we may judge from the proclamation issued immediately after the cession of the colony, dated the 7th of October, 1763, which invited British settlers, under the promised protection of British laws, to locate themselves in this newly-acquired country, and the ordinance promulgated the following year, directing that the laws and practice of the English courts should be administered in the newly-established courts of civil and criminal jurisprudence in the province, we may fairly conclude that such was the object of Great Britain in conquering Canada; and, had those salutary measures been adhered to with that firmness which might have been expected from a powerful government, however unpalatable it might have been to the Canadians, whose leaders would naturally perceive in such a change the decline of their influence, this end would have been peaceably secured; but a wavering, weak, and timid policy led the Government, in their attempt to correct an error, to commit a blunder, for having, by an impolitic measure, excited the New England colonies to rebellion, they thought (by that erroneous system of conciliation which, it is to be regretted, has too frequently characterized the measures of later

administrations) to create a spirit of loyalty in their new subjects, by restoring to them their laws and customs as they existed at the conquest; which act of suicide on the hopes of the British settlers and of British ascendancy was committed in the year 1774 by the Quebec Act, or 14 Geo. III. c. 83, now justly considered as the primary cause of all those difficulties which have agitated the country, impeded its progress, and brought it into its present critical situation.

The long and tedious contest between Great Britain and the old colonies having resulted in the separation of the now United States from under her dominion, a great number of loyalists, warmly attached to the mother-country, and anxious to remain under its valuable institutions, retired to Canada, and settled, in the year 1784, in the upper part of the province (Canada being then combined in one province, called the "Province of Quebec"), which having in a very few years, by means of emigration and the active enterprise and industry of British, and British descendants, so increased, as to require legislative provisions suitable to their peculiar situation (in a colony essentially French, though bearing the privileged title of "British subjects"), and for the promotion and growth of British principles in the country to which their loyalty had brought them, a representation was made to the British Parliament (in which many Canadians then joined) for a representative constitution, with such a modification of the laws, both French and English, as, through the wisdom of Parliament, might be adapted, with justice, to the interests of the mixed population of which the newly-acquired territory was composed. Had the terms of this petition even been complied with, British influence would have increased in a much greater ratio than it did under the subsequent expedient of dividing the province into Upper and Lower Canada, which took place by the Act 31 Geo. III. c. 31, giving to each province a legislature composed of three branches, as a type and transcript of the British Constitution; for, whilst the upper province continues to increase and prosper rapidly under those privileges which its inhabitants duly appreciated and turned to good account, the lower province, totally unfitted by ignorance and prejudice for the boon unfortunately bestowed upon it, employed the advantages which the Constitution accorded to it was intended to confer (by giving them power to legislate and provide such Acts as would improve the condition of the country, and advance its prosperity to an extent that should render it worthy the name of a "British Province," the acquirement of which had cost so much British blood and treasure) in passing Acts inimical to trade and emigration, and characterised by a jealousy and hatred of everything British, or that could lead to the increase of British influence, and frequently bursting out into acts of the most unbridled opposition,—nay, insult to the instructions conveyed to them by the representative of their Sovereign. Thus did Lower Canada pursue a system of useless legislation, opposition to the Government, and annoyance and persecution to the minority of their fellow-subjects of British origin developed in every session of the provincial legislature, from its first assemblage—the 17th December, 1792, under Governor Clarke, till its dissolution in 1837, by the Earl of Gosford.

The decided French character which Lower Canada still exhibits,

from the style of its buildings, the dress and language of the "habitans," and the peculiar construction of their vehicles, would lead a stranger, on arriving at Quebec, to suppose he had been landed in a province of France. The costume of the Canadians is, indeed, somewhat fanciful; it is composed of an entire suit of grey cloth manufactured by themselves, called *étouffe du pays*, with a *capote* tied round the waist by a *ceinture*, or party-coloured sash, wearing on their head a *bonnet*—*bleu*, or *rouge*—and on their feet the *mocasin*; those for common use are made by themselves from beef-skin, called *souliers de bœuf*, and, being saturated with oil, are entirely impervious to wet, whilst those for extraordinary occasions are made of deer-skin by the Indians, and fancifully worked. The *paysannes*, or *habitans* women, wear a figured cotton jacket, or *mantelet*, with a blue-striped worsted petticoat, a straw hat, and *mocasins*, as used by the men. They bear the appearance of a contented, happy, and, hitherto, loyal people, though their loyalty never was of much value, or to be relied on, for their extreme ignorance occasioned them to be easily led to good or evil, according as either of those qualities predominate in those under whose more immediate influence the circumstances of the moment may place them.

The Canadians have some very useful qualities; they are very skilful drivers, and expert *batteau* and canoe men; and, for the latter qualifications, added to their being peculiarly hardy, and cheerful under privations and difficulties, they have been selected as *voyageurs* to the North-West and Hudson Bay Companies: in passing through the rapids they generally cheer themselves and enliven those whom they are conducting with a French ditty, or Canadian boat-song.

Notwithstanding the opposition which the factious legislature has always offered to improvements, some symptoms of a British colony are exhibited at Quebec by the few public edifices and private English residences that have been reared since the conquest; amongst the most conspicuous of which are the New Court-House and gaol. The Protestant cathedral is a neat and unostentatious edifice, with a light and lofty spire, which, like the roof, and in accordance with the general usage on all public and private buildings, is covered with tin, that, on a bright day, gives a brilliant appearance to the city.

The *château* of St. Louis, the former residence of the Governors, situated near the edge of the precipice on Cape Diamond, is a very extensive building, and in 1808 was repaired and beautified at a very great expense, by the province, to render it a suitable habitation for the royal representative, but was, during the period of Lord Aylmer's administration, accidentally destroyed by fire, and the turbulent state of the provincial legislature has prevented their passing an Act for building or replacing it.

The passage up the River St. Lawrence, prior to the year 1816, was both tedious and inconvenient, but since that time has (through the enterprise of the late respected Mr. John Molson, an Englishman of capital and industry, and one of the oldest of the British settlers,) been so supplied with steam-boats, as to cause the passage now to be as expeditiously accomplished as a similar distance can be in any part of the world.

PETER PIVOT'S LETTERS FROM NEW BRUNSWICK TO HIS FRIENDS
AT THE DEPÔT.

No. IX.

You ask me for some account of the Indians of this province; and I know you to be too well informed upon the subject, generally, to expect in the description any portion of that romance which formerly belonged to every sketch of Indian character. They are of the Milicite tribe, which has never, I believe, been remarkable for any of those warlike qualities and that lofty spirit which formerly distinguished the "Five Nations," and other powerful tribes in North America. They are, however, a very superior race to the Micmacs, who inhabit Nova Scotia, and the shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence: they are expert fishermen and hunters, and, with common industry and foresight, might still obtain a comfortable livelihood—according to their own rude notions of comfort—from the woods and rivers of the country; but they are to the last degree improvident, and, like their northern brethren the Esquimaux, it is pretty frequently either a feast or a famine with them. Nature, or, what has been aptly termed second nature, "habit," has fortunately endowed the Indian with astonishing powers of endurance both of hunger and fatigue: accompanied only by his dog, he penetrates fearlessly into the deepest recesses of the forest, traversing the wilderness to his selected hunting-ground, with surprising speed and unerring skill: if he fall in with game, he feasts; if not, he simply tightens his broad leathern girdle, as often as the vacuum caused by fasting may permit, and, thus stifling the pangs of hunger, he pursues his way, at a long jog-trot, until he reaches the objects of his search, or sinks down reduced to the necessity of staying the immediate demands of nature by such wild berries or herbs as he can always resort to in extremity. Such is the hard and lonely life of the native hunter, but it is a life which, with all its privations, he prefers to every other; and it would seem less difficult to tame the tiger or hyena than to persuade him to renounce it, and submit, upon any terms, to the usages and occupations of civilized society: yet it must be said, in his defence, that the encouragement held out to him to attempt to gain his bread by agriculture has not hitherto been very great, and the gains of a successful winter in the woods are often sufficiently large to justify his predilection for the chase—for, if the wild animals are now less numerous than formerly, the value of their skins and furs is proportionably increased.

The first opportunity I enjoyed of seeing an Indian assemblage was on the first day of the year, when all within reach are in the habit of presenting themselves at the Government House at Fredericton, to receive the annual presents, which are still provided for them at this season. The deputation, on the occasion alluded to, consisted of about one hundred men and women, decked out in their best and gayest attire; and they were received with great ceremony by his Excellency and family, surrounded by the principal inhabitants of the place. The party marched into the drawing-room, in single, or, as we should say, in "Indian files,"—the men by one door, led by old Thomà, their chief, and the women by another, headed by their "lady governess." There is even yet about the Indian, fallen as he is from his ancient character, an air of dignity that seems to be inherent in him: his move-

ments, if not graceful, are at least free from anything like awkwardness or "*mauvaise honte*," and he tenders his hand to his European brother, of whatever rank, with the freedom and confidence of an equal. For the ladies I cannot say so much: nothing can well be more ungraceful than their shuffling gait, or more unbecoming than their costume; and, if it were not for their eyes, which, with scarcely an exception, are large, black, and expressive, I should not be far wrong in saying that one seldom sees a plainer race of women than the Milicite squaws.

Old Thomà made a short "palaver," not in the figurative and impressive language of his native tongue, but in bad and broken English; and, instead of the lofty sentiments and impassioned eloquence of the Indian sage, we were treated with a dry detail of grievances, ending with the usual begging petition: the game, he said, was getting scarce; their fishing-stations had been destroyed by dams and saw-mills; while they were still without titles to the lands which the Government had reserved for them; they had, moreover, suffered much from sickness; and it was, therefore, hoped that the annual presents would be made as liberal as possible. After the party had been treated with cake and wine, they favoured us with a dance, which consisted in circling round with a slow shuffling step to the discordant harmony of a reed and drum, the dancers joining in chorus at stated intervals. This stupid exhibition afforded no amusement; and the chief declined allowing his young men to perform the war-dance, as too exciting, and liable to lead to mischief and disorder. The fête concluded with the presentation of guns to the most expert hunters—the distribution of blankets, and other aid so frequently required by these poor wanderers, being left to the judgment and discretion of commissioners appointed to a general superintendence of their affairs.

A week or two after this we took a drive to the winter camp of the Indians in the woods. The permanent Indian village, which stands on the bank of the river, is, indeed, but rarely occupied by these migratory beings: in summer their encampments may be seen on every lake and stream, frequented by the shad, the salmon, or the gaspereau; and in winter they invariably retire to the woods, where they are sheltered from the cutting winds and driving storms of that inclement season. When we started on this excursion the thermometer stood at 15° under zero; but the day was fine, and the sun shone brightly through a clear, still atmosphere, with a degree of warmth strangely at variance with the rigorous winter-scene around us. Our route lay up the frozen river, which we found in admirable sleighing order—smooth, crisp, and shining as a polished mirror, the result of a brief and recent thaw, succeeded by intense frost; and the path we followed presented the novel appearance of an avenue of spruce-trees growing apparently from the ice—a novelty, however, for which we were indebted to the Statute Labour Act, agreeably to which the track is thus defined at the beginning of winter, in order to confine the travelling to it, and secure a good, well-beaten road throughout the season. On such a day, and on such a railroad, a comfortable sleigh and good team, nothing is wanting but a pleasant companion to make a drive delightful: the spirits partake of the elasticity of the air—and the very horses, acknowledging its invigorating influence, accomplished with ease their twelve miles within the hour.

At Indian Village, the head-quarters of the tribe, but wholly deserted at this season, we ascended the bank, and left the river behind us. Entering the forest by a narrow path, we had the good fortune to witness in perfection that splendid spectacle known here under the title of a "silver thaw," and nothing certainly can be more singularly beautiful than the effects produced by these sudden and rapid transitions from thaw to frost: the forest presents the appearance of one glittering mass of crystal, broken into figures of every possible variety and shape, and tinged by the sun's rays with every colour of the rainbow: but let your imagination form from this imperfect sketch what picture it may please, it must still fall far short of the reality.

Another hour of painful ploughing through the deep untrodden snow, interrupted by many a violent shock from hidden stump or stone, brought us to a warm and sheltered glade, where a cluster of wigwams marked the Indian bivouac: the smoke curling above the spot, and the sharp bark of the half-wild dog, alone indicated that the camp was occupied; but on nearer approach we observed a group of the children of the tribe amusing themselves in their own staid and grave manner—so different from the hilarity and mirth which habit has taught us to associate with the sports and pastimes of the young: some were shooting with bows and arrows, which they handled with great dexterity; some were practising with small spears, such as are used in spearing salmon; others were employed on miniature imitations of the different implements of the chase in use among the elders of the tribe; while all seemed to be busy, in one way or another, preparing for the great business of their after lives.

The Indian wigwam is a wretched contrivance, shaped like a sugar-loaf, and formed of slight poles covered with the bark of trees, having a large opening at the top for the egress of smoke: these rude huts are arranged in family groups of three or four, with a low fence around them for the accommodation of such domestic animals as the party may possess. The hunters of the tribe were absent, but in the wigwams we found women, children, and a few old men squatted round the fire, which occupies the centre of the domicile—the squaws employed in making baskets and other trifling articles for sale—and the little papoos, where there was one, pinioned up in its wicker-work cradle, generally standing bolt on end, with the demure face of the little urchin alone visible, and watching the proceedings of the family group. The dormitory is formed of a layer of dried grass and leaves, with a few old rugs and skins; and the household goods and chattels rarely exceed what may be conveniently transported in the family canoe from one station to another.

The squaws were not seen to advantage in their domestic avocations; their party-coloured garments were old and slovenly arranged, and it must be owned that there was a great want of cleanliness both in their persons and abodes: there is something, however, always soft and pleasing in the countenance of the young Indian female; and occasionally an individual of rare beauty may be seen among them, but, under the drudgery and hard labour to which they are subjected, the most favoured of them become prematurely old.

What surprised me most, in conversing with the elders of the tribe, was the deep interest they appeared to feel in the progress of the Seminole war. The moment the subject was alluded to they seemed to throw off their habitual apathy and stolidity, and to evince something of

the fire and eloquence of their ancestors. They assured me that councils had been held by the adjoining tribes upon the subject, and that "they were all for war." How far this declaration may benefit their brethren in the south, or affect events at such a distance, I leave others to decide. To me it always has appeared that a special interference of Providence in favour of this unhappy and ill-used race can alone prevent their extinction at no distant day, in a country once exclusively their own.

No. X.

With a winter's experience to guide me, I may now venture to offer some remarks upon the society and amusements of the country.

The single regiment which is stationed in New Brunswick has one wing quartered at Fredericton, and the other at St. John, with a small detachment at St. Andrew's. The barracks at St. John are very good, while those appropriated to the accommodation of the officers at Fredericton are indifferent; but the latter station is, notwithstanding, generally preferred.

St. John, although a bustling sea-port, containing a large body of wealthy and respectable merchants, affords little or no society to the officers of the garrison. Those of the merchants who are wealthy are too much engrossed in their mercantile pursuits and occupations to devote any part of their time or income to less important objects, even if their tastes and habits were not otherwise opposed to gaiety and social entertainments. The fogs, too, which prevail for so many months in the year, render the city anything but agreeable as a residence to a stranger.

At Fredericton, on the other hand, there is a very pleasant, small society, composed of the families of gentlemen holding public offices, and the circle is enlarged by others unconnected with the Government, who have settled in the vicinity, either from a preference to the situation, or from the desire of being near the head-quarters of the province.

The hospitalities of the place commence with winter; and, including the weekly entertainments at Government House, provide a round of dinner-parties and soirées during the season, which neither the drifting storms of snow, nor any degree of severity in the cold, are allowed to suspend or interfere with: even when the mercury has disappeared from the index of the thermometer, the ladies fearlessly expose themselves, sometimes in open sleighs, to the rude blasts of an almost polar winter,—and in the sudden transitions from the open air to an overheated room they must often experience a change of temperature of some 85° or 90°—and, again, at midnight, they sally forth without alarm, to encounter the like vicissitudes. The ordeal of such a fashionable season must certainly appear alarming to a stranger; but custom reconciles him to it, and he is encouraged to persevere by observing that no people are more robust and healthy than those who thus brave the rigours of the climate.

The chief out-door amusement during winter is sleighing; and tandem-clubs are formed at the different garrisons for the encouragement of this exercise and pastime: pic-nics are got up; and even the ladies of the place, often under the guidance of some very tyro in the art of driving, boldly encounter all the dangers of the drive, such as being frost-bit, upset, or, if on the river, being "landed," as Paddy would say,

in an air-hole, or large opening in the ice, which in the hardest winters is to be found at intervals along the river, and is not always perceptible to the inexperienced until it is too late to avoid it: serious accidents, however, seldom happen; warm skins and careful wrapping afford a sufficient protection from the frost; and, at any rate, if fortunate in an attentive companion, there is no great cause for apprehension, as the judicious application of a handful of snow to the part affected by the frost will at once arrest the evil. The worst that can result from rapid and unskilful driving is a pitch into a snow-wreath—while, even in the more alarming case of driving into an air-hole, we may usually compound for a good wetting, whatever may become of the unfortunate equipage and horses.

The country people and stage sleighs which travel on the river are, or always ought to be, provided with a strap round the necks of the horses, which, when an accident of this kind occurs, are first choked to prevent their floundering and ensure their floating, and they are then drawn, without much difficulty, upon the ice. When the sleighing is good, and the day not over cold, nothing can be more exhilarating than a drive along the smooth and glassy surface of the frozen St. John. The horses scarcely feel the collar, but bound over the elastic ice with prodigious rapidity, and the longest journeys are performed with ease and expedition.

There is rarely any good skating for more than a day or two in the beginning of winter, as the glare ice disappears with the first fall of snow, and that which is produced after a thaw (an unusual change in a Fredericton winter) is generally too rough and uneven to encourage this healthy and graceful exercise. Skates are, however, in common use among the boys of all the large towns, where the snow is trampled to a hard consistency by sleighs, horses, and foot-passengers, and they may be seen flying along the streets, not without some risk to the more staid pedestrians; but there is another amusement of the rising generation, called "coasting" in the phraseology of the country, still more annoying to their older brethren. Wherever there is a hill or declivity, a "*montagne Russe*" is speedily prepared, and the little urchins, seated upon boards and small hand-sleds, descend these inclined planes with amazing velocity, crossing streets, and upsetting every person they encounter in their progress. It is, indeed, not less surprising than a proof of dexterity in the lads, that so few accidents do occur from this practice. They are constantly to be seen passing within a few feet of horses at full trot, and they have even been known to pass without injury between a horse's legs.

I do not think that there is anywhere a worse shooting-country than this part of North America. The tame and stupid partridge affords no sport, at least in a sportsman's idea of the term, for a whole covey may be shot upon a tree, one after the other; and the only precaution that is necessary for the performance of this murderous feat is to begin with the lowest bird, that he may not disturb or alarm the rest of his companions in falling to the ground. There are nominally three kinds of partridges in the country, the birch, the beech, and the spruce, so named from the trees which they frequent and feed upon; but the two first are scarcely to be distinguished from each other. Their plumage is a shade lighter than that of the English partridge; they are also larger, and their flesh is white, and not unlike in taste and appearance to that of

the common pheasant. The spruce partridge is a size smaller, and much darker both in flesh and plumage; his legs are feathered to the toes, and he bears a strong resemblance to the red grouse. These birds are still numerous in most parts of the country, and the markets are well supplied with them for at least six months in the year. In the spring, however, their flesh becomes to a certain degree poisonous, from their feeding on a particular berry which abounds at that season in the woods; and at this period all prudent people refrain from using them. Hares are likewise numerous, but, inhabiting the thickets of the forest, they afford no sport; great numbers are, however, taken in snares, and hawked about the towns by boys and people from the country, who gladly dispose of them for about a shilling the pair. The New Brunswick hare is much smaller than his English congener, and, like the mountain hare, becomes quite white in winter. His flesh is white, and rather tasteless.

It must be owned, however, that there is good sporting for a week or two in autumn, when the snipes come in; and the woodcocks, which breed here, have attained maturity. Then, indeed, snipes are so abundant at Gagetown, and other marshy districts, that a good shot may bag his forty couple in a day of as fine large birds of the species as are anywhere to be met with. The woodcock is a handsome bird with a red breast, and he is somewhat smaller than the European cock. They come in flights early in spring, and generally breed in the immediate vicinity of clearings. The young birds are full grown about the latter end of August; and from that period to the middle of November, when they take their departure for a milder climate, a constant war is maintained against them from all the military stations in the province. They are not, however, very plentiful, and from four to five couple are considered a good day's sport. Fortunately for the preservation of these birds, few of the sportsmen of the smaller villages and settlements are sufficiently expert in the use of the gun to risk their ammunition at a flying shot; and they are therefore seldom, if ever, exposed for sale.

There is also tolerable wild-fowl shooting in the season, but one must be indifferent to cold and discomfort to enjoy it. The black and blue-winged duck are brought in considerable quantities to market, and are both excellent; while the brandt, which are plentiful upon the Gulf shore, may be pronounced equal in flavour to any wild-fowl in the world, not even excepting the celebrated canvas-back of the United States.

The larger game, once so numerous, are, it is asserted, becoming every year more scarce; but this I am inclined to doubt, as I can see no good or sufficient reason to warrant the assertion. Settlement has certainly not advanced in this province to the extent to disturb them in their haunts, while their inveterate enemies, the Indians, are rapidly diminishing in numbers. It is, however, certain that the moose, or American elk, has rarely been seen of late years in the province; but he is a migratory animal, and the fact that they are still numerous in the adjoining peninsula of Nova Scotia, from which they cannot emigrate, sufficiently proves that their disappearance from New Brunswick must be ascribed to other causes than the progress of clearing or the effects of man's hostility.

Cariboo and deer of different kinds are to be found in considerable numbers all over the province; and to those who do not fear to en-

counter the fatigues and privations of a residence in the woods, they sometimes afford good sport, although, to say the truth, the chase is not always successful, nor the aggregate result of the winter hunting-parties very destructive to the wary race against which they are directed. The carraboo, when adorned with his lofty antlers, is a majestic animal. He is evidently of the rein-deer species, and nature has wonderfully adapted him for traversing with rapidity and ease the snowy regions he inhabits, and for eluding the pursuit of his enemies, while his expanding hoof enables him to pass swiftly over the deepest snow: his back sinews, cased, as it were, with bone, are so well protected, that he suffers little injury from the crust or frozen surface of the snow, which proves so fatal to the moose and smaller deer; and his senses of smelling and of hearing are, like all his species, so acute, that he is only to be approached with the utmost care and caution. Indeed, if there should be the slightest crust upon the snow, it is quite useless to attempt to get within shot of him.

The hunting-season is in winter, and, when parties are formed, one or two Indians usually accompany them, whose duty it is to select the bivouac on an eligible spot, in the vicinity of some favourite resort of the game, and where, well sheltered from the wind, with an immense fire and a good supply of skins, the hunters may remain for days together, without experiencing any ill effects from the cold. Deer of every kind are often found in what the Indians call a yard; that is, a space of more or less extent, according to the strength of the herd, trodden down by the animals until it assumes the form of an enclosure surrounded by walls of snow; and these self-made traps sometimes prove very destructive to their occupants, when attacked with the cunning of the wily Indian; but the carraboo are much more frequently killed in the frozen morasses, and barren or extensive plains, which are at all seasons the favourite station of these animals, yielding, as they do in great abundance, the berries, herbs, and wild grasses upon which they feed. The native hunter usually conducts the operations of the chase; and, with only the track of game to guide him, the sagacity with which he forms and executes his plans seldom fails to conduct him to his object. With the stealthy caution of the cat, he draws upon his prey, availing himself of every inequality of the ground, and, above all things, taking care to approach the herd up-wind; and, if hunting by himself, he will generally creep within thirty or forty yards of his object before he trusts the result to the accuracy of his miserable weapon; but there are few unpractised Europeans who would succeed in approaching so near; some awkwardness or imprudence would betray them, and it is not every man who can bring down a carraboo at eighty or a hundred yards, even with one of Purdey's best rifles.

Moose-hunting is conducted in another way. The hunters in this case must run down the game; and deep snow, with a thick crust, are almost certain guarantees of success, when good dogs and resolute walkers are once upon his track; but it is not every winter that produces that sort of weather which is best suited to the chase. To enjoy this sport, it is necessary to cross the Bay of Fundy, where these noble animals are still numerous, and, as many people believe, upon the increase; a belief that may very fairly be admitted, if we are to form an opinion on the subject from the few which are annually killed by the hunting-parties, whether native or European, which go out in quest of

them. The bivouac and preliminary arrangements are the same as in New Brunswick; and, the Indian having found the track of game, his well-trained and sagacious dogs are slipped upon it. The hunters follow on their snow-shoes, and, if circumstances favour them, will sometimes run the moose down in the course of a few hours. At other times, when the snow is free from crust, and not sufficiently deep, parties have been known to follow him for days together, without getting even a view of him. Upon the whole, it must be owned that moose-hunting is a very uncertain sport; but it must also be confessed that fatigue, trouble, and former disappointment are forgotten and repaid when we do succeed in bringing to bay this monarch of the American woods, measuring nineteen or even twenty hands in height, and crowned with his towering and majestic antlers.

But, independent of the winter-hunting, the moose are exposed to the attacks of their enemies at other seasons; and it is perhaps in autumn that they suffer most, when they are allured to their fate by the Indian's deceitful imitation of their cry. In moose-calling, success mainly depends on the judicious selection of a station, on perfect concealment, and on the calmness of the weather, to prevent discovery from the animals' keen scent. The sportsmen must forego not only fire, but even the indulgence of a cigar; and it certainly requires some resolution to sit out a chill September or October night, under such circumstances, in expectation of a shot.

The party having reached its ground, and taken post, the Indian uses his call, which, if there be a moose within hearing, will generally be answered, and eventually bring the victim within reach of the sportsmen. It is a fine thing to see the gigantic beast trotting up, in expectation of meeting his mate, towards the spot where the party lies in ambush. Disappointed in not finding the object of his search, he hesitates—suspicion is awakened, and he gradually reduces his pace to reconnoitre. At length he halts—he is evidently alarmed—and now the fatal volley tells him that his fears were too well founded. This part of the sport is not without excitement; for a bull moose, if not brought down, will, at such times, not unfrequently charge furiously, and he is no plaything to come in contact with, one blow of his foot being quite sufficient to lay the strongest man prostrate.

The flesh of the moose is tender, and well tasted. The tongue and head are considered delicacies, and from the moufle, or muzzle, a rich soup is made, not much inferior to turtle-soup.

The carraboo venison is, at certain seasons, almost equal to the English fallow-deer; but the smaller deer are held in no estimation, and are indeed scarcely fit for table use.

There are no other wild animals which afford any sport. The wolves followed the moose into the adjoining state of Maine, and are now rarely to be met with, even on the frontier.

The bears are chiefly taken in traps, or killed on their marauding excursions in the neighbourhood of the back settlements; while the loup cervier, or small lynx, is seldom seen. He inhabits the thickest parts of the forest, and is said to be so exceedingly fierce, that he will not hesitate to attack those who assail him. I may thus conclude, as I began, by expressing the most unfavourable opinion of the field-sports of New Brunswick.

**ATTACK ON POINT AU PELEE ISLAND, IN UPPER CANADA, BY PART
OF H.M. 32ND REGIMENT.**

ON the 2nd March, 1838, information was received at Amherstburg by Colonel Maitland, who commanded the 82nd Regiment, and the Western District, that a large body of brigands from the American side of Lake Erie had taken possession of Point au Pelée Island in Upper Canada; in what force could not be precisely ascertained, as the British inhabitants on the island had been made prisoners, and others who went to reconnoitre were fired at, and obliged to retreat without gaining any information. Captain Glasgow, Royal Artillery, was then sent to ascertain the state of the lake ice, and, as he reported it strong enough to bear the guns, Colonel Maitland determined to attack these marauders.

Point au Pelée Island is situated near the western extremity of Lake Erie, and about midway between the American and Upper Canadian shores; is nine miles in length, and about six miles across at the broadest part. There is a clearance of some acres at the northern extremity, where there is a lighthouse; but at the southern extremity a thick bush comes down to the water's edge. The intermediate surface of the island is covered with alternate strips of bush and swamp. On the east side there is a clearance, in which are some few scattered houses; the principal one belonging to Mr. M'Cormac, the owner of the island, who had been obliged to fly from his home some days previous, and the leaders of these marauders were living in his house. The lake on the east side was quite open: it never freezes over there: and it is to be remarked that at the southern end of the island, at a distance of not more than six or seven miles, there are two small American islands.

The force destined for this attack consisted of 4 companies of the 32nd Regiment, 1 of the 83rd, 2 6-pounders under the command of Captain Glasgow, Royal Artillery, some few Militia, and a small troop of Volunteer Cavalry of about 25 men. A sufficient number of sleighs having been procured for the transport of the men, the troops left Amherstburg about half-past five o'clock on the evening of the 2nd March, and kept the lake shore for about twenty miles, arriving at a small place called Colchester about ten o'clock. Here Colonel Maitland halted to rest the horses, and the people of the village, hearing that the soldiers were coming, had made every preparation for their comfort. About half-past one o'clock the next morning the expedition started from Colchester, leaving the lake shore, and striking off directly across the ice towards Point au Pelée Island. A guide was placed in the leading sleigh, and at first starting it was tolerably light; but before they had gone many miles across the lake it became quite dark, and all trace of the road was lost. It then became absolutely necessary to procure a light for the guide. One of the Volunteer Cavalry was sent back in search of one, who returned after some time with a lantern. After some delay and trouble the road was found again; but not being much beaten, they had great difficulty in keeping it. This unexpected and unfortunate delay prevented Colonel Maitland's making his dispositions for the attack before daybreak, which had been his intention;

besides which, as was afterwards ascertained, the moving light attracted the attention of the enemy, who were consequently warned of their approach.

Having travelled twenty miles across the lake, the troops arrived within a mile of the island shortly after daylight. Here a detachment, consisting of Captain Browne's and Captain Eveleigh's companies of 32nd, a small number of the Volunteer Cavalry, and half-a-dozen Indians, branched off to the right to take up a position at the south end of the island, in order to be ready to intercept and cut off the retreat of the Americans to their own shore. Captain Browne's orders were to keep along the ice out of musket-shot of the bush. The main body proceeded onwards, and reached the island without opposition; though they saw thirty or forty armed men, who, however, took to their heels immediately, and were soon hid in the bush. Colonel Maitland sent to apprise Captain Browne of this circumstance. We shall now leave the main body, and follow the movements of Captain Browne's detachment, which proceeded at once to its destination; but not very easily, as the road was exceedingly rough, and covered with broken ice. From the point of separation to where Captain Browne's party halted and took up its position on the ice at the southern extremity of the island, was nine miles. After halting, seeing all quiet, the men piled arms, took off their greatcoats, and had their breakfast. Two of the Indians were sent into the wood to endeavour to procure information. One of them returned shortly, and reported that the main body of the brigands, amounting to between three and four hundred men, were coming down in the direction of Captain Browne's position, all well armed and with bayonets fixed, and that in less than half an hour he was quite certain they would arrive upon the ice. He also reported that he had not seen or heard anything of the main body of the troops under Colonel Maitland, but that he supposed they were in pursuit of these very fellows.

Captain Browne, though fully persuaded upon this that a party of the brigands was approaching, yet was strongly inclined to think the Indian's story much exaggerated; however, he soon proved himself entitled to credit, for in about half an hour, as he had stated, they began to come out of the bush from the south end of the island in very considerable numbers, and formed upon the ice. Much to the surprise of Captain Browne and his party, they formed regularly in line like a disciplined force, told off by files from right to left, and by threes, and made a considerable noise in doing so. They formed as near the bush as they could, and the officers attributed the deliberate and noisy mode of their proceedings either to bravado, and a wish to intimidate the soldiers by such a display of their superior force, or an endeavour to tempt them by so doing to make the first attack; intending, if they advanced, to retreat to the bush which was so close to them, and open a destructive fire from behind the trees. However, this *ruse* failed in its effect, for the soldiers remained perfectly steady in the position they had first taken up, which was out of musket-shot of the bush, as Colonel Maitland had directed. On their right flank, which was opposite the left of the 2nd company of the 32nd Regiment, the brigands threw out from thirty to forty skirmishers, all of whom, it was afterwards ascertained, were armed with rifles, and were their best shots. They took at least half an hour to complete these arrangements, but even then

Captain Browne did not believe they were determined on commencing an attack. At length the word Quick March was given by their leader (a man calling himself *Major* Hudley), and they came boldly on. Captain Browne's gallant little band, which only mustered ninety-five men, and those all young soldiers who had never been under fire before, then prepared to meet them. Finding that the enemy's line threatened completely to outflank his small force, Captain Browne ordered his files to extend to three paces' distance from each other, so as to show a better front, the American force being at least three times that of the troops. The former came on in good order, and the soldiers (who had been directed not to fire a shot until a positive command was given) remained perfectly steady until the fellows came within good range, and then opened upon them with right good will. This fire arrested their advance, and they all went down upon one knee, and returned it immediately. A very brisk fire was kept up on both sides for about twenty minutes; however, the outlaws had a somewhat better position than that of Captain Browne, for the ice was very rough where they stood, which covered them a good deal. They, knowing that their only safe line of retreat was thus cut off, also expecting the main body of the troops in their rear, fought desperately; and being good marksmen (as, indeed, all the Americans are, from constant practice), the soldiers were falling very fast. At this crisis, seeing many of his brave fellows stretched upon the ice, Captain Browne judged it expedient to charge, and no sooner was the word given, than it was responded to by a loud cheer, and his men rushed on with the greatest impetuosity. At first the enemy stood firm, and appeared determined to resist the bayonet; but, as the soldiers neared them, they fired a volley which brought down eight of Captain Eveleigh's left subdivision, and then they gave way and fled in all directions into the wood, where Captain Browne was unable to follow them, owing to the smallness of his force; he therefore at once withdrew his men to their original position, and re-formed, fully expecting a second attack.

The wounded men were sent to the rear; and on mustering the two companies, which originally amounted to 95 men, 30 had fallen,—a fearful proportion!—of these, 2 died almost immediately; 20 men severely, and 8 slightly wounded; of the former, 2 died within a week, and several lost limbs by amputation. *The blue surlouts of the officers contrasting with the red coats of the men*, rendered the former a very conspicuous mark, and attracted the enemy's fire towards them, but, though the officers received several balls through different parts of their dress, they most fortunately escaped unhurt.

About an hour after this affair the Americans were observed at a distance, upon the ice, making their escape towards their own shore: the few cavalry Captain Browne had with him were despatched in pursuit of them, but the ice was so dangerous in the direction in which they had escaped, and the ruffians had already got so far, that the cavalry could not succeed in overtaking any of them. On visiting the scene of conflict, Major Hudley, the commander of the American brigands, and 3 other of their leaders, and 7 of the men, were found dead; 11 more had been made prisoners, 5 of whom were wounded; but it was stated that they had sleighs concealed in the wood in which most of their wounded men were carried off; and their loss was great; for a week after this a gen-

tleman arrived at Amherstburg, from Portland, U.S., to which place the fellows had fled, who stated that they admitted to have lost 80 in killed, wounded, and missing; many of the latter were drowned in endeavouring to make their escape across the ice.

It may here be necessary to add, that the main body of the troops, under Colonel Maitland, after having scoured the island in every direction without firing a shot, or even seeing an enemy, arrived at Captain Browne's position about three hours after the attack had been made, of which they knew nothing, not having heard the firing. It was ascertained from the wounded prisoners that Major Hudley had watched the light approaching upon the ice until he witnessed the separation of the troops, when he determined upon attacking Captain Browne's party with his whole force, and thus make good his retreat to the American shore, not daring to await the attack of the main body, which he saw was provided with artillery.

Colonel Maitland, and the troops under his command, returned to Amherstburg at eleven o'clock on the night of the 3rd of March.

A RAMBLE AMIDST THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS OF SOCOTRA.

By Lieut. J. R. WELLSTED, F.R.S., F.R.A.S., &c., Author of 'Travels in Arabia.'

[Read at a late Evening Meeting of the United Service Museum.]

CIRCUMSTANCES connected with my public duties, while engaged in a maritime survey of Southern Arabia, induced me to wander for two months over this solitary and almost unknown island. It was reported to be equally insalubrious with the eastern coast of Africa, off which it lies; but I slept in caverns, on rocks, and under trees, during the whole period, without my own health suffering to any considerable extent. It may, however, be observed of travellers in general, that, while on the move and under the excitement of a variety of successive objects passing before them, they rarely fall sick, while, should the same individual remain stationary in an insalubrious district, irritation of mind, from delay or other causes, but too frequently predisposes and effects such a result.

I know not a more singular spot on the whole surface of the globe than the Island of Socotra; it stands forth a verdant isle in a sea, girt by two most inhospitable shores, yet its wooded mountains, its glens, its sparkling streams differ not more from their parched and burning deserts, their bleak and wasted hills, than do its mild and inoffensive inhabitants from the savage and ferocious hordes by which they are traversed. Strange, too, as is the anomaly of 5000 people, all split into different tribes, and existing without laws or government; yet offences against the good order of society appear less frequent than with even the most civilised nations of Europe. My pursuits and researches were certainly calculated to excite suspicion with a bigoted or ignorant people, yet I met with no interruption on my former visit, although journeying alone without any other protection than the good feeling I might excite in my progress.

I learnt, upon a visit some months after that here alluded to, that it was anticipated a British force would soon occupy the island, and I, therefore, became exceedingly anxious, that some spot should be looked for,

which would answer for the transmission of their invalids. Now Europeans attacked by tropical disorders are; if the elevation is sufficiently considerable, very generally restored to health by a residence on mountainous tracts. Such a ridge, many of its points elevated 5000 feet above the level of the sea, rises close over the town of Tamarida, the station it was proposed the force should occupy, and appeared at once to answer admirably for such a purpose. I had on my previous visit examined them but cursorily, but I now determined by a residence thereon for several days to set the matter wholly beyond doubt.

My preparations were soon made: the necessary instruments for meteorological and other observations, a small gipsy tent to protect me from the dews at night, and my cloak, were all I cared to provide myself with; for provisions I depended upon what I could obtain on the mountain. My only companion was John Sunday, a Nubian boy, who had been the sharer of my wanderings for years; his history is somewhat interesting.

I was fond of leading him to discourse on this, his country, and his friends. He preserved a distinct recollection of his father's hut, and the various articles of furniture within it, and of the kindness of an old village priest who taught them the Koran. They subsisted principally by hunting; and it was in one of these excursions, when about twelve years of age, that he was kidnapped by some of his own relatives, and sold to a slave-dealer at Berber, on the Nile; hence he was driven across the desert twenty days to Suakin, a port in the Red Sea. At this period it was considered advisable to man the East India Company's vessels of war partly with Africans, and he was accordingly manumitted and received on board: his figure was tall and thin, but well proportioned: he had the crisp and curly hair of the negro, without his flattened nose or thick lip; on the contrary, his features were regular and pleasing, partaking more of the Abyssinian than the negro cast.

By the wish of the sailors, like Robinson Crusoe's man Friday, he received his *sobriquet*, John Sunday, from the day he came on board: and, in their opinion, furnished an additional reason why he should be speedily made a Christian; but this was not so easily done: he was as wild and active as a goat: for some days it was impossible to convince him but that he was destined to be eaten, and he had an especial horror of the boatswain, who to a most capacious mouth added a truly formidable range of teeth; he had but to expand the one and display the other in a grin, and off the poor little fellow would scamper, and take shelter in some obscure nook in the hold, from whence it was impossible for some time to dislodge him. As he had accompanied the caravan the whole time on foot, his condition at first was very miserable, but for some time he refused food under an impression that we were merely desirous of rendering him better fitted for our epicurean palates. When he got rid of this by perceiving that we persisted in eating as other people did, he gradually acquired our habits, was taught to eat with a knife and fork "like a Christian," as his now particular friend the boatswain said, and at length to the sailors' great delight was taught to take the half allowance of grog, which boys in a vessel of war are always permitted to draw: for some time, however, I am afraid that this gradual violation of the Temperance Society rules of his countrymen was a source of more gratification to the boatswain's friends than himself; for, when he first took charge of Sunday, it was observed by those malign-

nant persons, who are over-desirous of peering into the actions and affairs of others, that the notes of his pipe after meals, before he called all hands, were richer, more mellifluous, more lengthened, terminating with a smart flourish, than before; all of which, however, in proportion to Sunday's increased capacity for relieving his friend from the painful duty of swallowing the pernicious poison, gradually declined to their former simple severity. Pork he manfully registed for some months, nor did he ever take kindly to it; the noise it made in frying used to surprise and disgust him; he never would remain near it if he could escape. I am not surprised at this aversion, arising as much from religion as from the deep-rooted aversion to the swine all must imbibe who have only seen it in the East; there it is a tall, gaunt, half-famished, and half-ferocious-looking brute, which performs the office of scavenger.

After he had in some measure mastered the colloquial of our language, myself and brother-officers amused ourselves with teaching him reading and writing: on most points his progress and comprehension were on a par with the mere European, excepting in the power of figures, which he could never be made to understand on paper; but set him to make a bargain, however complicated the details, and it very soon became apparent his talents were not to be despised.

He attached himself at an early period to me, and has accompanied me on journeys for many hundred miles. In sickness, in health, in danger, or in privation, I ever found him the same brave and faithful creature. I had but one fault to find with him; his desire to save me from being fleeced got him frequently into scrapes with the natives; no reasoning with him could prevent this. One of the grand secrets in successful travelling in the East is to permit yourself to be cheated with your eyes open. Sunday often spoke with much feeling of his mother, his sisters, and other relations he had left behind him; and I have then inquired of him, if he was desirous of returning to them? He always replied, despondingly, that if they had escaped the same fate as himself, which he feared they had not, the difference in their religion would prevent them from ever receiving him. He once met a fellow-villager in Egypt, but was so ashamed at having fallen from the faith of his fathers, that he could not muster courage to speak to him, and inquire into the fate of all those he still held dearest. Those who have sought to degrade the African below the ordinary level of the human race, describe them as possessing the social relations in but a weak degree. My own experience enables me to give a decided negative to such a position, for in this respect I should place them far above the Asiatics.

To return from this digression. On the morning of the 10th January, 1835, we quitted the vessel, and two hours' brisk walking along a shepherd's track brought us to the base of the mountains. The atmosphere was so close and sultry, that I was bathed in perspiration, and received with much thankfulness a bowl of milk which some Bedouins tendered to me. Imagining I should suffer from the cold as much as themselves, they laughed at the idea of my passing several days there, and predicted that the morrow would again find me on the plains. I gladly, however, accepted the offer of two of their number, who tendered their services to act as guides and carry the tent, which had been brought thus far on the back of a camel.

We ascended by Wadî Afuf, a precipitous and rugged glen, very narrow, and thickly wooded. The soil was a rich, dark loam, nourishing a great variety of beautiful flowers. After two hours' hard fagging, climbing in many places, and holding on by the roots and branches of trees, we halted about 3 P.M. under an impending rock. A few minutes before we did so, I was very nearly bitten by a snake which the natives call Java, and the bite of which, they say, proves mortal in the course of a few hours. It had, apparently, just gorged a bird or some reptile, for it was lying in a half-torpid state, partially coiled round the branch of a tree, which in colour it so nearly resembled, that, though my hand was nearly touching the head, I did not distinguish it. Sunday, more quick-sighted, did; and I drew my hand hastily away as it was rearing its head. We killed him. 'It is singular, much as my wanderings put me in the way of meeting with snakes, and numerous as they are described to be on this island, yet this is the only occasion in which I have been put so nearly in contact with them.

What a delightful and grateful change, from the over-heated and sultry atmosphere below, to the coolness and invigorating freshness of these regions! Seating myself on the verge of a precipice overhanging the valley, I gazed on the scene around. Every object, after being so long accustomed to the naked, arid scenery of Arabia, was novel and interesting. I have travelled much amidst the mountain scenery of that country, of Persia, and of India, but that of Socotra, in wildness and romantic grandeur, surpasses all. The sun at this early period of the day was sinking beneath the Western Mountains, and their shadows already obscured the lower portions of the glen; the clustering foliage, clothing portions more elevated, was yet warmed by its golden beams, which, partially obscured by the trees under which I was seated, then agitated by the wind, fell in checkered and variegated light around us, while many and beautiful tints illumined the rugged and pinnacled summits of the naked granite spires which tower above all. On the opposite side of the glen a clear and sparkling stream holds its wild and sportive course, here peeping forth from beneath the foliage, glowing and quivering in the sunbeams, or there hurrying forward to lose itself for a brief space in the clear blue pool beneath. On that craggy pinnacle above, where, at this distance, it appeared difficult to conceive that the foot of man could have found a resting-place, is perched a shepherd, his figure standing out in bold relief against the blue vault of heaven. His voice alone breaks the stillness of the scene, the peculiar shrillness rendering it distinguishable from afar, while his flocks, in obedience to his call, are perceived wending their serpentine course down the almost perpendicular face of the mountains.

When daylight had ceased to soften the picture, I rejoined Sunday, who was busily employed cooking, after the Socotran manner, a kid, which had a few minutes before been brought by a Bedouin: the bones were first removed, and the whole mass was then thrown into an earthen pot. Some rice, in addition to this, formed an excellent meal, to which the whole party sat down. Sunday and myself, at first, with the advantage of our knives, held the lead, but were soon compelled to relinquish it; our best were but puny efforts, compared to those of our rivals, who did not desist until they had cleared the board. The capacity of these islanders in such matters is indeed prodigious, and they

often expressed surprise at the far smaller quantity of food which sufficed us. In the evening I accompanied the new comers to their cave, which was situated a short distance further up the mountain. Abundant of fuel was at hand, and a blazing fire soon reared its cheerful flames before us. As these rose red and flickering and in fantastic wreaths to the roof, it lighted up a wild and romantic scene. The irregular surface of the projecting masses in the interior of the cave stood forth in bold relief, while the lofty arched roof, and numerous caverns more retiring and remote, were lost in the deepest gloom. Nor was the interest of the scene lessened by the appearance of my companions, whose half-naked figures, plaited hair, and peculiar marked and expressive countenances were also in savage keeping with the rest of the picture. Some of the party spoke Arabic, and I was in consequence able to converse with them. I was most anxious, since they had been in pretty constant communication with the English for some time, to know what they thought of us, as contrasted with other visitors. Their reply was a very simple one: "You always pay for what you receive, and never maltreat us or our females, as the pilgrims and others who have touched here did before you; so that we, who at first always fled at your approach, no longer do so, but bring our sheep, as you have witnessed this evening, and eat them with you." I observe that more than one foreign traveller in the East has brought a charge against the English, that they are repulsive and imperious in their demeanour towards the Asiatics, and are, consequently, hated by them. This is just one of those sweeping clauses which sounds high, and has just enough of truth in it to allow of its occupying the attention until we reason or examine the grounds for such a position. No European can be liked in the East; both the Hindoo and Mahomedan religions forbid it; but, let it be asked, what other European nation has been more successful than ourselves in obtaining their good wishes? The Dutch, the Portuguese, the French—they were severally in power in India. Were they then loved more than ourselves, or than they are now at Java, Manilla, and Algiers? Had the English been in possession of the latter city as long as the French, I think our relations with the Bedouins which surround it would have been different, and that we should have been able to have shown ourselves without the walls without the certainty of being shot at from every bush. Admit that the manners of my countrymen are not the most bland and conciliatory in the world, to what high moral attributes and principle are we to ascribe the superior regard and consideration an Englishman enjoys in those countries over most other foreigners? "I observe this difference between an Englishman and any other Frank," said a merchant once to me in Cairo; "I believe the word of the former, I do not that of the latter. When another Frank owes me money I am anxious to get it paid, for I am convinced he will not do so until he is absolutely obliged. With an Englishman, on the contrary, I feel no anxiety, for he seeks me out and seems uncomfortable until my debt is discharged." We may laugh at an Englishman squandering his money in other parts of the world, but it is not inconsistent (considering their relative positions there) with oriental notions in these countries.

After remaining talking with these simple people until a very late hour, I returned to the rock under which we had first encamped. Sunday

wrapped himself in his cloak and was soon asleep. It was a lovely evening, the moon "hung imminent," and shed its flood of splendour over the naked spires above and wooded glens beneath. Not a breath of wind was stirring: the stars shone forth gloriously. I spread my cloak on a rock, and, wearied at length with the events of the day, slumber stole over me; dreams of home and friends whom, after an exile of fifteen years, I was about soon to rejoin, mingled with the forms of those I had just quitted, and I slept throughout the night without interruption.

January 11th.—Refreshed by the purity of the air I had breathed in my slumbers, I arose at an early hour, and, after bathing in one of the clear and sparkling pools below, I continued my journey up the mountain.

The foliage was, if possible, more dense than at the lower part of the glen, and I had still considerable difficulty in some places to make my way; in others the path led along the brow of a precipice, and was partially cleared for the convenience of the cattle which occasionally cross over this part of the mountain. The morning air was keen and cold, and impregnated with many agreeable odours from the numerous aromatic shrubs and flowers which grew around. Rock-doves and other feathered choristers added their wild and plaintive airs to the tinkling of numerous streams, or the hoarser cadence of some louder and more distant fall. At an elevation of about 4000 feet we arrived at a sunny sloping plain, verdant as an English meadow: several sleek cows were feeding around. The day was clear and cloudless, and we obtained a magnificent view of the greater part of the island, although we had not attained the highest point of the range, for a ridge about 500 feet more elevated was behind us. Yet this appeared well adapted for my purpose; accordingly I selected a spot which was sheltered in some measure by an impending rock, where I pitched the tent, and resolved for the present to make it my head-quarters. I found, however, before I had been here long, that the wind swept over the mountains with such violence that a tent was wholly useless, and I determined therefore to employ a few of the natives to collect stones and build a rude hut, similar to their own. By the next day I had a very snug little room about six feet square every way, and the tent spread outside prevented the wind from making its way through. I passed my time delightfully here. I had nothing to do but to wander forth during the day, collect flowers, sketch, or take my gun.

I shall now give some account of the general configuration and productions of the range. The Jebel Hadjar, or rocky mountains, cover a tract of country about ten miles in length and seven in breadth; they expose a number of sharp parallel ridges, crossed by steep valleys. On the northern, the side we ascended, they are more precipitous than on the southern. Above the crest or saddle crossed by these valleys the range rises into rugged and pointed peaks of very unequal elevation. They are sometimes connected by *plateaux* of limestone, and not unfrequently a considerable portion of the same formation may be perceived borne up between two peaks, or wrapped in folds around their shoulders. With the exception of some solitary dragon's-blood trees, the roots of which find sufficient nourishment in the clefts and hollows of the rock, the granite spires are wholly destitute of trees or vegetation, but are

covered with a yellow and red moss, much used for dying by the natives. From the plains below, on a clear day, this variety of colouring, when the sun is shining on them, produces a very peculiar and striking effect. The four largest valleys, commencing at their eastern end and taking them in succession towards the western extremity of the range, are Wadîs Jumal, Kishin, Alletu, and el Zeray. Near the saddle or crest I have before alluded to, they are very shallow and straight, but in their progress downwards they are joined by several transverse valleys, and their course is very tortuous; again, however, becoming more direct as they approach the plains. In their centre a stream of greater or less magnitude, according to the season, winds its way. The power these mountain torrents must acquire after heavy rains is manifested by the rounded form as well as romantic confusion of the huge boulders which everywhere line their bed, evincing that many of these fragments, thirty or forty feet in diameter, must have been twirled about like pebbles in a brook. All these valleys are in other respects very similar in their general features; they are very thickly wooded with the trees common to the plains below. One, Wadî Aîuf, four miles to the E.S.E. of Tamarida, is worthy however of separate notice. It has the most fertile soil, and affords the finest pasturage for cattle, in the island; in its centre there is a copious stream of water bordered by a broad and beautiful turf or sward, on which, at the period of my visit, many sleek cows were feeding.

The lower ranges of this group of mountains are composed of limestone and felspar: the latter passing, without any line of distinction, as it advances upwards, into a reddish-coloured granite, below the texture of the rock, is exceedingly coarse. Quartz crystallizations, of an uncommon size, occur, sometimes nearly as large as a hazel-nut. The peaks or spires are of the same colour, but the granite is of a finer and closer texture. From below they appear sharp-pointed as a needle, but at this view they assume the form of truncated cones, and are composed of large blocks, arranged perpendicularly, and resting against each other. These are again intersected by vertical fractures, and are crossed at various heights by horizontal ledges. The same arrangement may be observed whenever the naked rock appears at the base of the spires, where the largest fractures take the direction of the valleys, and are crossed by others extending in a direction perpendicular to them. In the valleys mica slate is found in large blocks, and also associated with the common grey granite. The common mountain limestone, as well as a bluish crystalline primitive limestone, is also found, together with fragments of gneiss and serpentine; but I did not observe these formations as of the limestone capping the summits or on the shoulders of the granite spires, nor indeed in any other situation than as I have described them. In one of the hollows on the east side of the island (a kind of natural amphitheatre, about three miles in circumference), in a naked precipice about 3000 feet in perpendicular height, the line of junction between the limestone and granite formation is beautifully exposed to view. In some places the upheaving force has been insufficient to protrude the peaks through the tabular mass above, in others they have done so, and carried a very considerable portion, as I have already noticed, with them.

Beautiful and fertile valleys occur in every part of the range; they

possess the richest soil, and the quantity of ground which is elsewhere susceptible of cultivation is very great. The table-land connecting the peaks, and also the sides of the mountains, might, as in India, be very soon cleared of their wood by fire during the S.W. monsoon, and the ashes would add to the capabilities of a soil already rich and of a great depth. What a change might not the industry of a few seasons make in the country! The fruits of intertropical climates, and the vegetables of more temperate regions, would, I have little doubt, be found to thrive equally well. Grain might be cultivated in Wadi Aïuf, and amidst the well-irrigated grounds at the skirts of the mountains, as well as on their summits and sides. For the latter it may be as well to observe, that in some parts of India, but more generally in Java, there is grown a description of rice called mountain-rice, which, unlike the common grain, requiring to be two-thirds of its growth under water, is planted on the sides of hills in situations where it can receive no other supply than that which it gathers from the rain. Or it might be planted at the commencement and reaped at the termination of the N.E. or rainy monsoon.

Yet with all these advantages, excepting in times of drought, when they form a refuge as pasturage-grounds for the greater portion of the stock on the island, is the country wholly neglected by the natives. The long grass, which is equal in luxuriance of growth to that of an English meadow, is, owing to the ignorance of the natives as to the process of making hay, trodden under foot and spoiled. The shores of both Africa and Arabia are almost wholly destitute in these parallels of vegetation or trees; and at a first view it appears strange that an island but a short distance removed from them, and in fact on a level with their more parched and arid plains, should possess such an exuberance of vegetation; but the causes on examination are evident.

Both monsoons, as they approach it, become considerably cooled by their passage across a great expanse of water: in the north-east monsoon the sky is usually overcast, and, while in the countries I have mentioned some months were to elapse before the termination of the dry weather, Socotra enjoyed frequent and copious rains due to her granite mountains, the lofty peaks of which obstruct the clouds, causing them to deposit their aqueous particles, to feed the mountain stream, or precipitate themselves in plentiful showers over the surrounding country. During the south-west monsoon, in place of the dark, cloudy weather and rain which marks this season in India, we had clear and cloudless skies, and the stars shine forth with uncommon brilliancy; at a period in the south-west monsoon, when the wind was blowing nearly a hurricane, and when the gusts swept down from the mountains with a force almost irresistible, throwing up the water in sheets, and keeping our masts to the height of the tops continually wet with the spray, we had, with the exception of a dense white canopy of clouds, formed like the "table-cloth" over the table-mountain at the Cape, the same clear cloudless weather. With respect to their natural productions, a large collection of flowers and plants was made during my stay; but as I know little of them at present beyond their mere local names, I shall, as a means of further illustrating the nature of the soil and climate, merely enumerate the most useful and common.

The first rank is due to the orange-tree, called, in the Socotran

language, Tenashur; they are found in every part of the granite mountains, but rarely at a less elevation than 2000 feet above the level of the sea. The Bedouins assert, that they continue to bear fruit throughout the year; the fruit clusters on them very thickly, but, although equally large and fine-looking with the cultivated orange, it never appears to attain a perfect state, being both acid and bitter. The tamarind-trees are of a noble size, and, as their branches spread a good deal, the space underneath affords good shelter for the Bedouin and his flocks; they are very numerous at the lower portion, but are seldom found at the summits of the mountains.

The tuk-tree, a species of wild fig, is found here; its branches possess that same remarkable quality which attracted so much attention in the *Ficus Indica*: they grow pendant until they obtain fresh root, and thus extend their foliage over an enormous extent of ground. The Ukshara, producing a fruit in form and in its clustering appearance resembling the wild grape, but too acid for useful purposes, and the Zeeruf, merit, also, attention; the latter bears a small red berry, in taste and appearance resembling the cranberry. But the tree which appears to flourish with the utmost luxuriance of growth is the dragon's-blood tree, *Dracaena Draco*, which appears to increase in magnitude the higher we ascend. Those which are met with near the summit of the granite spires are more than double the size of those at the skirts of the mountain; when young they have usually but one stem, and no branches, the leaves being disposed in the form of a star round the upper part; but as they get older they may be seen with three, four, and even five stems. These branches consist of a number of elongated tubes united together, but much contracted in size at their point of junction, which is so irregular that they usually appear awry. From the extremity of each branch a cluster of leaves rises perpendicularly, which are disposed in a circular form radiating from the centre; they are sword-like, and of a coriaceous nature, the outer being from ten to fourteen inches in length, and measuring about two inches and a half at the base, where their breadth is somewhat extended. These are larger than the inner circles, and have also less curvature. The branches are thickly interwoven in the most fantastic and tortuous shapes, but the foliage, assuming a more regular and better defined outline, rises in a semi-circular shape over the summit. Their appearance at a distance is, therefore, that of an inverted cone supported by a thin cylinder. The bark of the tree is of a lead colour; the wood soft and spongy, having their longitudinal fibres extending along it: the roots spread very much, partially intersecting each other near the surface. Few of them extend to any depth, and, like those of the wild fig-tree, they may frequently be observed seeking sufficient nourishment from the soil lodged in the cavities of the rocks. The Bedouins consider the tree to be of different sexes; the male, they say, produces no gum, which exudes so spontaneously from the female tree, that it does not appear necessary, on any occasion, to make incisions. There are two kinds of gum, but that called *Moselle*, of a dark crimson colour, is esteemed the best. Soon after the setting in of the south-west monsoon is considered to be the period most favourable for collecting it. Trees growing in the most elevated position produce the greatest quantity, which does not agree with the received opinion of naturalists, viz. that a greater quantity of gum exudes in a hot than a cold temperature.

The only esculent vegetables which are found on this range are a species of wild yam, called Toifut, which serves the natives with respect to their other food the same as bread does to us. The supply lasts throughout the year, and both the Arab and Bedouin are equally fond of them, and the former bring them from the hill and exchange them with the latter for lowarae, or dates. They are cooked by being placed on sticks over boiling water. We tried this and several other methods, but found them in all cases much less farinaceous than the yam. In addition to these the natives use the roots of several kinds of fern and other edibles of the same description. We have the Subhare Bhaire, or wild rhubarb, the stalk of which is very palatable; several kinds of sorrel, and a description of water-cress found on the sea-shore, which boil well as vegetables.

I have noticed these several productions, because they may prove of service to some vessel hereafter touching here. Whalers sometimes do so, and their crews are not unfrequently suffering from scurvy, for which lime-juice is strongly recommended. The oranges found on these hills form an admirable substitute; but a few days before my arrival on this occasion, one of these vessels, not, in all probability, knowing of the existence of these, had recourse to a method of cure noticed by Dampier, and some of the old Buccaneers. The patient, after being stripped, was buried in the bed of a fresh-water stream near the sea-shore, his head alone being left above the surface. In this position he was kept for two hours, and is said to have greatly benefited by the operation.

The whole of the middle and the lower portions of these mountains are covered with trees and bushes. As we advance upwards these become severally more stunted, the grassy spots occur more frequently, which are wholly clear of them, at the height of 2000 feet, a fine clover first makes its appearance, intermingled with which we find rosemary, lavender, liburnums, and several varieties of balsams, with many other odoriferous herbs and flowers. These continue to the utmost altitude of the granite spires; a considerable quantity of verdure is also nourished in those spots which are sheltered by the trees from the heat of the sun's rays; but, as we ascend more rapidly, not a crevice of the rock but affords some tree or flower. The fissures in the granite spires, which from below have the appearance of narrow streaks and lines, are now perceived to be ledges, containing a quantity of soil, and nourishing dragon's blood trees, and large bushes.

After I had passed some days on the delightful spot where I had first taken up my residence I moved to an adjoining mountain, Jebel Raggud, which forms one of the chain nearly encircling Tamarida. On my first ascent from the plain over the roots of the mountain the road continued over a gravelly soil, on which was deposited a thin layer of limestone broken into small fragments: bushes and trees continue the whole distance. The surface of the upper part of the mountain forms an irregular plain about three miles at its widest and two at its more contracted limits. The whole of the plateau is crossed by narrow ridges of limestone rock, which rise up into sharp and rugged peaks, presenting a singular difference to the usual tabular appearance of that formation; in other parts the disposition of the rock differs but little from what is elsewhere observed; they ascend in a gentle slope in the direction of the greatest length of the masses, terminating in mural precipices from 400

to 400 feet in depth, as on the granite mountains narrow horizontal ledges extend along the face of these, nourishing numerous trees and bushes, their verdant hue contrasting in a singular manner with the grey and weather-beaten appearance of the rock, and giving it, what in reality it does not possess, an appearance of stratification. The rock, in common with all other mountain limestone, is very cavernous; and I observed in some of these hollows, very splendid stalactitical formations, formed by the constant dripping of water from above. The surface of the rock within exhibits a succession of rounded masses perforated by numerous cavities: these caverns are used both as places of residence for the living and the dead: one of them, the most magnificent and extensive I had found on the island, was 250 yards in length, in breadth 175, and height 87 yards. Within the interior masses hung, as it were, suspended in the act of falling from the roof at the entrance: at the very centre the arch drooped, and rested on a rude sort of pillar: the dimensions and form of this vast cavern were in accordance with the solitary magnificence of the whole scene: the entrance was in a measure blocked up by a huge overhanging rock, which excluded the rain, while it preserved the interior from the heat of the sun's rays: circular stone walls, with low, narrow doors, divided the interior into different apartments, each of which appeared to be occupied by the same family; the number in one was eight, and, allowing an average of four in others, it gives forty inhabitants in this lonely retreat amidst the mountain wilds. A place in each, as with other oriental dwellings, is set apart for the females, and called the harem. It has been observed, with some show of justice, that orientals are less sensible of the charms of natural scenery than Europeans; but some of these dwellings are most picturesquely situated in wild and solitary glens: their entrance is not unfrequently wholly concealed from view by the hardy and umbrageous foliage of the wild fig, the roots of which possess the instinctive quality of traversing the rock and following its irregularities until they find a sufficiency of soil to nourish them. The darker hues of the herbage around, produced by the ordure of their cattle, was frequently the only clue to the existence of these habitations. But the most singular purpose to which these caverns are applied is as places of interment: a portion near the inner extremity was selected, and divided from the rest by a wall; the body was then placed therein, and partially covered with earth, but no coffin was used. Those who were added were deposited in alternate layers, the head of one occupying the position of the feet of the other. The custom of burying the dead in caves is of great antiquity; we find mention made of it at the commencement of the records of Holy Writ. The natives tell me they have long since abandoned the custom, and their dead are now buried in the same manner as with other Mahomedans.

They have, however, on such events, retained a custom now peculiar to themselves: when a near relative is about to die they send out and collect as many bullocks as their means will admit of their purchasing, which, when the event takes place, are slaughtered and sent round the neighbourhood. I was acquainted with an old man in Tamarit, who had made these preparations under an impression that his wife would not survive many days, and he told me in confidence that he had already fixed his eyes on a younger and more comely maiden to supply

her place; but an unexpected change took place which escaped his mind in all his calculations—he died himself, just as his disconsolate widow recovered, to pay, by the distribution of his cattle, due honour to his memory.

Jebel Raggud is destitute of other water than that left by the rains in the hollows and cavities of the rocks. The natives have preserved a curious tradition respecting the disappearance of one of the swamps which are formed on the loose soil: some cows, with their tenders, had gone to a spot they had for years been in the habit of visiting; the ground suddenly sank beneath and overwhelmed them. The hollow is at present about 200 feet in depth; it was, I have little doubt, one of those numerous caverns which everywhere abound in the formation, partially covered by a thin layer of earth.

I kept a register of the climate during the time I remained in these mountains. The transitions from heat to cold are sudden in the mornings and evenings, but during the day the thermometric range is very limited; in the morning the air continues very cool, until the sun rises over the summit of the eastern mountains: at noon, provided there was no wind, which was rarely the case, the heat of the sun was very considerable, but the instant it sinks behind the western mountains the air again becomes cool. In a house the transitions would not, of course, be so observable; and I may remark, moreover, that the station which I occupied received but for a short period the sun's rays. I found here, and on several other visits I made, to the mountains, that a superior current of air frequently sweeps down from the higher points in a direction quite contrary to the wind prevailing below, which would sink the thermometer several degrees. It must be observed that the climate, besides being subjected to these sudden variations, was not wholly free from the usual disagreeable accompaniment of highland regions: the summits of the lofty peaks obstruct the clouds in their progress, so that from sunshine and clear weather a few minutes brings dense fogs and drizzling rain; yet is this more than compensated for by the clear, pure, and unclouded atmosphere we enjoy at others. If possible, the nights are more pure than the days; and the moon's rays reflected from the smooth and grey surface of the granite mountains produce an effect I have rarely seen equalled.

The degree of humidity which was also exhibited after sunset and before sunrise (rarely a few degrees above the point of saturation) was also very great; our tent in the morning was usually found wet through, and the grass and bushes were everywhere dripping with moisture; it was impossible to move for some hours without getting completely drenched.

I may here, in the hope they will prove of service to future travellers, give insertion to a few remarks which suggest themselves to me.

There are several methods of ascertaining the mean temperature of mountain regions, of which the most common are—

1. By supposing the heat to decrease at certain rates as we advance above the level of the sea.
2. By the temperature of copious springs.
3. By long-continued observations of the thermometer.

Mine was observed at 9 h. 13 m. A.M. which, by Vol. X. of the Edinburgh Philosophical Transactions, is the hour in the morning when the

mean annual temperature takes place; the mean daily minimum is a little below 5 h. A.M., and maximum 2 h. 40 m.

I had Leslie's hygrometer, which Daniel recommends to be used at 2 h. 40 m. This instrument was invented by Professor Leslie, and is by some called the Thermometric Hygrometer: its use is to mark the difference of temperature produced by evaporation, and is fully described in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

I am surprised, considering their extensive utility, that we have no well-constructed portable mountain barometer. I had one on this occasion constructed by Gilbert: it differed from others in the mode of fixing the zero of the scale; a screw attached to the lower part of the bag raises the surface of the mercury to this. To prevent, however, the frequent accidents which have occurred by its weight breaking the tube, the instrument was filled at the station where it was required to be used. A glass cistern was affixed to the tube by four steel screws: but the plan does not answer—the screws rusted, the glass cylinders snapped, or the mercury could not be prevented from escaping. I managed, however, to use it for ascertaining the daily variations in the height of the column. These were once supposed to be confined to the vicinity of the Equator, but they are now known to extend to every part of the globe, and, according to Humboldt, not only at the level of the sea, but 12,800 feet above it. I wished, as more observations were much required, to compare their range with that of those carefully noted on board the vessel.

As was my usual custom on such journeys, I mixed much with the natives, living in their huts with them. Desirous of remaining close to their herds on those occasions when they bring them from the plains below to browse here, they erect huts of loose stones, neither side of which exceeds seven or eight feet; more filthy habitations can scarcely be conceived, and they swarm with vermin. Those which are not thatched are usually covered with earth, and goats and sheep may frequently be observed feeding there. The mountaineers inhabiting this range are usually of a hardy race, yet, from being so lightly clad, and from exposing themselves at all hours to the wind and rain, intermittent fevers are by no means uncommon among them. Most of the cases I saw had assumed the tertian type, and this was the form it took whenever those who accompanied me were attacked.

The result of my inquiries and observations on this range induced me to strongly recommend that it should be selected as a station for the troops. How bitterly it is to be regretted that my suggestion was not adopted! the whole of the first detachment, including their officers, with the exception of one, died two months after they landed; but the second, with better judgment, were at once marched to the summit of the mountains, where, until they were recalled, they enjoyed a climate equal to that of England, and not a fatal case occurred amidst them.

Socotra enjoys so many advantages of position, that, now steam-navigation between the East and West is occupying so much discussion, attention has been constantly drawn to it. It lies directly in the route of ships coming from the Red Sea, the entrance to which it may be said to command—and also in the track of vessels proceeding from Europe to India—advantages which will, in all human probability, at no very distant period, compel us again to occupy it.

DISASTER OF EL HAMET.

MR. EDITOR,—I have read with great satisfaction the notice of an Expedition to Alexandria, which appeared in the Numbers for January and May of your Journal. They evidently proceed from the pen of a writer who knows what he is about; but they do not give an account of the most deeply and painfully interesting portion of the campaign—I mean the terrible struggle at or near El Hamet, which ended in the total destruction of Colonel Macleod's detachment. It so happens that I have in my possession the journal of a gallant officer who served with this detachment, and shared the fate of the survivors of the battle; and though it be thrown into a shape which may or may not be accounted appropriate, according as the reader's taste shall lean to the light or the grave mode of detailing such matters, I think it best to send it to you as it is—merely warning you that of the names introduced many are avowedly fictitious, though of the details you may rest assured that all are candidly stated. It is perhaps needless to add, that the substitution of fictitious for real names was meant by the writer as a means of sparing the feelings of individuals, who might not perhaps relish his remarks on their own conduct, or on the conduct of their deceased relatives. I think that such a course is never a judicious one, because when we deal with matters of history our course is plain. But I am not going to interfere with it in the instance before me. So take the journal as I give it to you, and be thankful.

AN OLD SOLDIER.

JOURNAL.

The village of El Hamet is situated on the bank of a canal, which, when the river is subject to one of its periodical floods, unites the Nile with the Lake Edko. On one side a chain of low hills stretches along its entire extent; on the other the ground slopes gently towards a narrow belt of desert, which, intervening between El Hamet and the town of El Raschid, forms, as it were, a natural defence against the approach of an enemy from the interior. The village itself consists of about 100 houses, and is planted in the centre of a ridge, on the only spot where the ridge is traversed by a road. There, during the continuance of the operations against El Raschid, a detached force was stationed, as well for the purpose of covering in the rear the division that was employed in the siege, as in order to welcome the Mamelukes, of whose arrival in the lines there existed a momentary expectation. Indeed, so confident was the General commanding on this head, that the piquets received orders to be very cautious how they fired after nightfall; and I have good cause to believe that to the detachment in occupation of El Hamet instructions of a similar character were given.

The following narrative commences on the 22nd of April, 1807, on which day it was my lot to occupy with my company one of the breaching batteries that had been thrown up against the town. There had been a good deal of firing during the early part of the day, which still continued, though with long and increasing intervals, as if guns and gunners were growing alike weary of their work—and the latter, at least, had become anxious for repose. For ourselves, we of the infantry,

having had little share in the fatigue, were more open to the cravings of hunger than to the pressure of weariness; and I and my trusty Subaltern made the best dispositions which circumstances would allow to allay them. Accordingly, under the shelter of our cloaks, and squeezed as close to the parapet as possible, we sat down knee to knee, having each upon his canteen a piece of salt junk and a biscuit, and each brandishing a clasp-knife in his hand.

"Come, Tom," said I, "eat, drink, and be merry. As soon as this horrible din ceases, we'll have a snooze. They shan't work me as they did last night; we're on the right side of the wall for once."

"Hervey, Hervey, my boy," exclaimed a voice from the outside of the parapet, "where are you?"

"Here," said I, peeping from beneath my cloak, and observing the Adjutant. "Here I am, Roster; but what brings you hitherward?"

"Not curiosity, you may depend upon it," was the answer. "The General wants you."

"For what?" asked I, by no means delighted at the prospect of being called upon to quit my shelter, and to run the gauntlet of the enemy's fire while proceeding to the General's tent. "What does he want with me?"

"He must answer that question himself," replied Roster. "I only know that he sent me to bring you to him, and then to relieve your company. I suppose you are going to be sent somewhere or another—perhaps to El Hamet, where there has been some fighting this morning. I saw the ammunition packed and ready for a start opposite to the General's tent."

"Well, Roster, if that be all, you may tell the General he had better send off the other company at once, and not give me a dance of half-a-dozen miles in the dark for no purpose. You may add, that I am on piquet; that I came back from escort only last night; that it is not my turn for detachment; and, in a word, that I won't budge an inch for him or anybody. Tell him that, or anything else you please, for go I positively will not."

"Pooh, pooh, nonsense man!" replied the imperturbable Adjutant, "that's all stuff. What have you got in your canteen? Hand it this way and let's try." And, suiting the action to the word, he clapped it to his mouth. "There now," continued he, after emptying the implement of half its contents,—“let's be off,—and devil take the hindmost.” And away we ran as fast as our legs could carry us—I at least in no good humour, and both willing to get beyond the line of fire with as little delay as possible.

On entering the tent I found the General seated by the table, and carelessly picking his teeth. Near him was Colonel —, and half reclining on a sort of couch, formed of two or three camp-stools, was Lord Burghersh, who rested his arm on the table, hummed *Di Tanti Palpiti*, and beat time with his knife on a plate.

"Have you dined, Hervey?" asked the General.

"No, Sir," replied I. "Roster took good care to prevent that; for he lugged me off before I could swallow the first morsel of carrion I had put into my mouth."

"Come here, then," rejoined the General, taking up a cold fowl,

the remnants of a tongue, and some bread, which he thrust into my havresack. "That will stay your stomach. Now let's look at your canteen. Not much here, my lad;" and he proceeded to empty a bottle of port into the plug-hole.

"Stop, stop, Sir!" said I, "there's rum in it." "Is there?" answered he. "Never mind that, not the first time you've drunk rum port, I'll be bound;" and he laughed heartily at his own joke. "Now, be off to El Hamet with all haste, and deliver the ammunition and this dispatch to Colonel Macleod; and, mind me, take most affectionate care of the donkeys—for, strange to say, they are unusually scarce at present in this neighbourhood;" and he laughed again. "Very well, Sir," replied I; and in ten minutes I was in full march through the sand, moving towards El Hamet at the probable rate of one mile in an hour.

There is something unexpressibly solemn in the absolute stillness of the desert. On the ocean you are lonely enough, but the heaving of the waters reminds you that Nature still lives; and a sail from time to time descried in the far distance gives assurance that from human companionship you are not entirely cut off. The wanderer over the barren wilderness is very differently situated. There all is loneliness around him; for it is a remarkable fact that, though a multitude be separated from you, by ever so narrow an interval, you are not aware of their proximity till they meet your eye. On the present occasion, though not at first made sensible of these facts (for the commencement of the march was enlivened by the chirping of millions of crickets, and the ear-piercing whistle of the crab-legged beetles which abound in this neighbourhood), they were not slow of forcing themselves upon our observation. The mighty silence of the desert gathered strength as we went, and was by-and-bye wholly unbroken, save by the dull and heavy tread of the soldiers on the sand. Moreover, the sun had long set, and the myriads of stars that are visible in this hemisphere seemed struggling to make their way through the pale and sickly mist that bounded the horizon on every side. It was impossible not to perceive, from the lagging conversation of the men, who made their way with extreme difficulty and great labour, that the effect of these various influences operated painfully upon their spirits. I confess that I fully participated in the feeling, while the thought of having been wantonly, and out of my turn, thrust upon an unpleasant duty, had no tendency to reconcile me to myself or others. I trudged along, therefore, at the head of my company, as discontented and moody a man as might be. At length Vincent, my Lieutenant, broke the spell.

"Is this ammunition for the Mamelukes?" demanded he.

"Don't plague me 'om," replied I. "I am in a devilish bad humour."

Vincent whistled. "I am glad we are well out of that battery, any how. It was no joke coming off and on guard under such a salute as the rascals gave us."

Still no reply, and another whistle. I took a mouthful of the General's mixture.

"Would your honour be pleased to *pint* out the road?" said one of the corporals. "The advance-guard is quite at a *nonplush*." Not a word in answer.

"There is no getting through this sand," observed Vincent. "It's a yard deep at the very least. I say, Hervey, is this ammunition for the Mamelukes?"

"Damn the ammunition!" answered I. "And damn the sand!" added Vincent; "there's no bottom to it."

"Would yer honour be plased, Captain, for to *pint* out the road we are to *felly*?"

"Follow your nose, my man."

"Why, Frank, what's the matter with you?" said Vincent. "If you will neither point out the road nor tell us where we are going, in heaven's name let us sit down. I am getting heartily tired."

"I neither know nor care where we are bound to, Tom," said I. "It is quite dark, we are without guides, and whether the ammunition finds its way to El Hamet or the bottom of the Nile, is a matter of as much indifference to me as I dare say it is to you."

"Oh, quite so," replied he; at the same time laying hold of my cane and taking a suck. "But what in all the world have you got here? it tastes like nothing in nature except ink and brandy."

"You are not far out there, Tom. Ask the General the next time you see him, for it is his gift."

"Come, come, Frank," rejoined Vincent; "there's no use in being sulky; cast spleen and ill-humour to the winds, and make the best of a bad bargain. I say, Casey," continued he, addressing himself to a tall, swaggering, rollicking Tipperary boy, "tip us a stave—a song will cheer us on this dull, dark march."

Casey cleared his pipes, and was going to commence, when up came Serjeant Taafe from the rear, and, bringing his hand slowly to his cap, said, "Plase yer honour, Master Francis, it's totally impossible to keep them there donkeys in the ranks. They keeps jumping on one another like mad, and otherwise behaving in the most ritous and rum-bustical manner. Would yer honour be plased to step to the rear?"

I could not refuse to comply with this request, and accompanied the serjeant accordingly; and sure enough the scene in the rear proved to be one of supreme confusion—men and donkeys were mixed together, kicking, biting, and pommeling one another with the utmost desperation. One animal had been knocked down by a blow from the butt end of a musket; several others, having broken loose, were scampering over the plain, while their drivers pursued them with shouts and yells, though not, as it seemed to me, with any strong desire to overtake them. I drew my sword, and swore that I would take summary vengeance on the whole crew; when luckily, perhaps, for them, though not a little to my dismay, Vincent arrived with a report, that the advance had fallen in with some cavalry. I formed the party into square, recommended the most prompt and vigorous measures for restoring order among the convoy, and, hastening to the advance, found, sure enough, that a line of mounted videttes was in front of them. "What have we got here?" demanded I; for as far as the eye could reach the outlines of the figures were discernible. "They must be the Mamelukes," replied Vincent; "for you know they are expected."

"Mamelukes or Turks," answered I, "fire at them, my boys. Fire away, and keep close till I bring you a support; and mind, Tom, if they attempt to charge, get into a circle the best way you can."

I hurried back to the rear after uttering these words, and found that the sound of firing had acted upon the rioters like magic. Everything was steady and in order; so I had but to lead them up ready for fighting, to the ground which Vincent occupied; but the advanced guard had done the work without us; and, not content with putting the enemy to flight, were blazing away, with might and main, at the ridge from which the horsemen had withdrawn.

"By St. Patrick, I have given that fellow his *paise*, anyhow!" exclaimed one of the soldiers, as a four-footed animal rolled over. But, alas! it was no Arab cavalier. One of our unfortunate donkeys, having taken this direction in his flight, came within the line of fire, and Pat's unerring aim allayed his irregular propensities for ever. Neither was further opportunity afforded of exercising his skill; the enemy had fled, and did not show themselves again till after we had reached our place of destination.

We reached El Hamet about half-past two o'clock, and I lost no time in reporting myself to Colonel Macleod. He gave us time only to eat a hurried meal, and then directed me to take up a position with the whole of my company among the sand-hills in front of the village, which I was not to quit until further orders. Now I plead guilty to the charge of having always had a will of my own. A child of the regiment, as it were, of which my father had had the command, I had been treated by all ranks so kindly, that the spoiled boy grew up into the wayward and petulant youth; whose sallies, bold as they sometimes were, did not excite the ire of wiser and better men who had known him in his infancy. On the other hand, it is but just towards myself to add, that I never meant otherwise than kindly by my comrades; and that the men regarded me rather as clansmen regard their chief, than as an officer whom by the articles of war they were bound to obey. For several of them had been born on my father's estate; two had acted as his servants, and one was married to my nurse, Biddy Flanagan, the most warm-hearted and attached creature that ever came from the land of potatoes. The consequence of all this was, that to disobey orders, when they did not happen to jump with my own humours, was a habit to which I was a good deal addicted; and that many a time I was saved from destruction by the affectionate and kindly feelings of those about me. For the men—especially Taafe and MacGrab, my father's old servants, and Darby, Kelly, and Casey, his people, would have laid down their lives for me at any moment; and as they never called me anything else than Master Francis, so I admitted them to a degree of familiarity, which nothing short of their absolute devotion to myself could have warranted: and the feeling which they displayed was to a greater or less extent exhibited by my brother-officers. Colonel——, who commanded the regiment, treated me always like a son, though once or twice he was obliged to put me in arrest, and threaten to bring me to a court-martial.

I had not a high opinion of Colonel Macleod's judgment. I knew that as a regimental officer his character stood high, and that his courage was unimpeachable, but I had observed his conduct when at the head of the advance of the army, and it did not please me. He appeared to be a man incapacitated for separate command in consequence of a lack of firmness, which of all qualities is the most essential to the

formation of a perfect military character. If an exigency arose he never seemed to be prepared for it; and the plan which he formed this minute he abandoned in the next, without there occurring any apparent reason for the change. On the present occasion I could not help thinking, that to place me with my company so far apart from the village, as that no communication could be kept up except by occasional patrols, must expose me to the risk of being cut off, as well as put the village itself in considerable jeopardy. I determined, therefore, to set his orders at naught; and leaving my Subaltern with the main body under a cluster of date-trees, so as to connect my piquet with El Hamet, I took with me no more than a single section to occupy the ground pointed out. Yet even this arrangement was far from reconciling me to the unpleasant nature of my duty; I did not know what I was doing, nor could I understand either the position or the business of those around me: for though Colonel Macleod had said a great deal about the necessity for vigilance, he never once explained from what quarter danger was chiefly apprehended, nor said one word as to his final resolves should the dreaded emergency arise.

I went, as I have just stated, with one section of my company to the point, and there took post. The main body I had directed to light fires and make themselves as comfortable as possible; but this indulgence I did not judge it expedient to afford to myself, because I was completely isolated. Accordingly I sat down, with my back to a tree, in a very bad humour, and in the absence of supper made up my mind to console myself with a pipe. I turned up my havresack, and to my great horror ascertained that the tobacco was quite wet; nay, more, on further examination I discovered that not the tobacco only, but tea, sugar, and whatever else had a place in that rude baggage-waggon, was all saturated. A bottle of vinegar, which to my misfortune I carried about with me, had been packed up, at the close of our hasty supper, minus the cork; and now the contents were diffused liberally through the havresack, and every article within reach had received its share. My rage was extreme; yet I tried to smother it as well I could, and applied to Serjeant Taafe for the wherewithal to replenish my pipe.

"I am sorry to say, Master Francis," was the reply, "that it's a scarce harticle just now. This here quid (pointing to a lump on his cheek as big as a pigeon's egg) has done duty for three days; howsomever, if your honour chooses,"—and he began immediately to empty his jaw, an operation that was not to be completed in a moment.

"No, no, Taafe," cried I; "many thanks, but I wouldn't rob you for the world; on the contrary, I can supply you out of this bag. There, take it, and fill your jaw with its contents as full as it will hold." Taafe took the bag, and, nothing loth, crammed the pickled weed into his mouth; and, in good sooth, the grimaces which he made—the twistings and turnings of his lips, as the struggle between the acid and his disinclination to part with the tobacco went on, and ceased not, were truly ludicrous. The love for the plant, however, prevailed, as it always does; and by degrees the vinegar lost or seemed to lose its pungency.

• "Did the men cook before they marched?" asked I.

"No, Sir," replied the serjeant; "they had the *tommy* served out, but no beef."

"The devil they hadn't!" cried I; "then they shall have beef if there

be cow or buffalo in the village, and it can be had for love or money. Keep a good look-out in my absence; and, mark me, should anybody approach your post from the front, fire first and challenge afterwards. There's nothing like the voice of Brown Bess to give warning to those behind." So saying, I hurried off towards the rear, in the full determination of providing the means of sustenance for my men, being well aware that nothing tends so much as absolute inanition to enfeeble the energies, both mental and physical, of those who labour under it.

It was necessary that I should pass through Vincent's bivouac; and, as I approached it, I was not less pleased than surprised to hear a well-known voice say, in a merry mood—"Come, come, Tom!—cheer up, cheer up!—you're a glass too low; these are thirsty times, so off with your grog. For me I'm as dry, to speak professionally, as a hap'orth of remainder biscuit.

"But dry or wet, I shall never forget,
The christening of little Joey.
Fall de rall—fall—fall."

"My friend Parings the commissary," cried I, pushing forward to the fire beside which he and Vincent were sitting; "in the name of patience, what brings you hither? I thought you had gone off for supplies."

"So I did," replied Parings; "but at El Raschid an order met me to bring the provisions here, and here they seem likely to remain. Three camels and their drivers have taken French leave already, and more bid fair to follow. There's something going on which I don't understand, for the Arabs are flying in all directions."

"Let them fly," answered I; "what's that to us? However, I am glad I have met you, Jack, for the deuce a morsel have we in the shape of rations."

"Haven't you, my dear fellow?" replied Parings; "then, by Jupiter, you shall not long complain of that grievance. Hark'ee," continued he, addressing himself to one of his officials, "let Captain Hervey have a barrel of beef, a cask of rum, and half-a-dozen bags of biscuit. And for yourself, Frank," looking at me, "sit you down here. There's a famous pig's head in the pot, and it will be smoking before us in the twinkling of a bed-post."

There had been a time when a pig's head would have been as much of an abomination to me as to any faithful descendant of our father Abraham; but that time was past. Short commons and hard work do wonders in the way of curing a sickly appetite; indeed, I question whether Dr. Jephthson himself could prescribe anything more efficacious to his patients than a week or ten days at the outposts of an army which depends for all its supplies on a fleet at a great distance. My antipathies, accordingly were all forgotten, and, ordering a serjeant to see that rations were delivered to the men, I placed myself, with hearty good will, between Vincent and the commissary, neither of whom did greater justice to the kingly dish than I, of all pork-haters avowedly the most determined. Nor did our jollification end there. Parings produced a case of excellent cigars, with liquor both good and abundant; and a merrier trio than we were that night has seldom collected in a bivouac. The commissary, indeed, became ere long quite uproarious; not that he was drunk, for we were too near the enemy to pass the line

of self-control, but he told stories, cracked jokes, and sang songs, till all was blue again. One of the latter I recollect perfectly, and it is a gay old English carrol:—

“Of all the brave birds that ever I see,
The owl is the fairest in every degree;
For all the day long she sits on a tree,
And when the night comes away flies she.
Tu whit, tu whoo, tu whit, tu whoo,
This song is well sung I say to you;
And he is a knave that drinks not now—
Nose, nose, nose, nose—
And what gave you that jolly red nose?”

What cared we, having got into this vein, for provisions, piquet, Mamelukes, Turks, or Colonel Macleod? We laughed, chatted, sang, and roared, like men who knew not anxiety, and might have continued to do so a great deal longer, had I not been all at once made aware that we had not all the mirth to ourselves. I started to my feet in absolute dismay, when twenty or thirty voices joined our chorus—

“Nose, nose, nose, nose,—
And what gave you that jolly red nose?”

“MacGrab, you rascal!” cried I, “recognising the tones of my hopeful valet among the rest;” “where are you? What are you about?”

“Cinnamon and ginger, nutmegs and cloves,
And they gave me this jolly red nose,”

answered the rogue, with perfect nonchalance, and singing lustily.

“Was there ever such a scene?” cried I, now thoroughly alarmed. “Macleod will be upon us as sure as fate, and then woe to him who is found napping. Hie to the piquet, Vincent, and see that all is right. I must stop these revellers.”

Vincent hurried off as I desired, while I took the round of his bivouac, where, sure enough, everything presented the appearance of ample courage, plenty of the good things of life, and no lack of the very highest humour. Camp-kettles were boiling everywhere on fires, round which the soldiers were clustered, each with a tin in his hand liberally supplied with grog, and the songs, and jokes, and conversation, as if borrowed from those of their superiors, were all of the most boisterous, albeit nowise unbeseeming. Yet I felt that it was necessary to throw a wet blanket over it; and I did so. The men were too well aware of the nature of their own position, as well as too thoroughly convinced that I would not wantonly interfere with their mirth, not to obey me readily. They restrained their joyous humours, ate their suppers and drank their grog quietly, and then lay down. In a few minutes the stillness was that of the grave.

[To be continued.]

THE DAYS OF THE VOLUNTEERS.

[The late reduction of the Yeomanry, and, we must infer, the prospective annihilation of that useful and constitutional force, would seem to enhance the value of an institution which was called into existence by patriotism, and is about to be extinguished by parsimony. The retrospect drawn in such true and touching terms in the following sketch, although limited to a particular district, may be said to represent the spirit which animated this country from one extremity to the other at the period in question. It also exhibits, in a correct and striking light, the collateral benefits produced by the practical influence of the Volunteer Associations upon society and civilization.—Ed.]

FREQUENTLY, about the commencement of the present century, the reports of the French having invaded, or being on the eve of invading, this country, resounded through the land, and agitated the people in an unprecedented degree. Not only did these alarms reach persons at the head of affairs, or who possessed the best means of ascertaining their truth, and the magnitude of the threatened danger, but wherever newspapers sped, or hearsay could be wafted, whatever was most dreadful or conjecturable penetrated and was retransmitted with a strength and weight that increased and accumulated at a rate proportioned to the distance at which the parties were placed in relation to the fountain of information. I propose to give as faithful a picture of the excitement which prevailed at that period as my opportunities for observation, my memory, and my pen, can furnish. And I am sure, if I can impress upon my narrative but a slight degree of the animation which ought to belong to the subject, not only will it engage a heartfelt interest on the part of the reader, taking it merely as a stirring and descriptive story, but present an example which, at the present and at all future times, ought to be regarded with admiration, hope, and a patriotic spirit of rivalry. In this attempt my safest course will be to confine myself to those scenes and occurrences of which I was an immediate witness, presuming that a circumstantial account of what transpired, even within a narrow section of our loyal and chivalrous territory, may stand as a specimen that is illustrative of the whole.

In 1805 twelve summers had shone upon me, and, therefore, it may be fairly presumed that I retain a lively recollection of the state of feeling and style of conduct that pervaded the immediate neighbourhood of my home at that remarkable epoch; and as that home was situated in a sequestered corner of the Western Lowlands of Scotland, within a few miles of the expanded Clyde, though before it can properly be called the ocean, the reports of French invasion, like every other news, never reached us until they were charged with all the accessories of alarm which it was possible to imagine; not only because they bore the colourings which uncertainty allowed the ardent minds of a simple and intelligent peasantry to bestow on them, but because we dwelt upon a coast, and almost upon the very margin of a magnificent crescent-bay, where a fleet of a thousand sail might ride at anchor, and land an immense army. A short description of our parish, and also of the

precise situation of my father's house, may serve to give effect to some of the succeeding details.

The parish of — occupies two extensive ridges, which, in a tamer country, would obtain the name of mountains. These, with their intervening and adjacent valleys on the water of —, form what may be termed the ground-plan of the whole. The stream alluded to may be said, indeed, to divide, by an impartial and equal process, this specified territory. It runs precisely from east to west; and though, at the higher boundary of the parish, it consists of a series of waterfalls, occasioned by the rugged uplands, which interrupt the view of all who, from the lower district, turn their eyes towards the interior, its channel, ever after, till losing itself in the sea, maintains the moderate and measured course of descent which the character of a gentler scenery and gradual declivity allows. It also happens that the lateral ridges spread and decline as they approach the coast, till they terminate at the lower extremity in a number of lessening eminences, into which the long and majestic sweep of the hills divides at last.

Now, the inhabitants of this picturesque parish—whether they dwell in the peaceful and neat village that is pitched upon a bank of land within the embrace of a curve of the stream, which, from its peculiar shape, is called the *Crook*, or upon the tops and sides of the ridges, or in the adjacent valleys—can, with scarcely a single exception, behold the far-rolling Clyde, without stepping many yards' length from their thresholds. Imagine, then, what sort of alarms and speculations were likely to fill the bosoms of these home-loving people, when two or three of them might meet together and comment on the fresh tidings, which had, perhaps, but a few hours before, reached them from afar, from London, through the domestics of Captain D—, the only inhabitant of the parish who treated himself to a metropolitan newspaper! These speculations generally consisted of improvements upon the exaggerations just promulgated, and were most effectively transmitted from one to another of the church-goers on the Sabbath, in the interval between the morning and afternoon services. The knots of whispering politicians that might be seen studding the churchyard in these days, had an appearance not more perfectly rustic than eager for information, while every member of each group was sure to carry to his own fireside all that he had heard, there to be farther re-enlarged. The Sabbath, indeed, and the spot, as well as the parties that were thus connected with reports that were sometimes direful and sometimes the theme of triumph, tended to give emphasis and importance to the conceptions of a people so single-hearted, imaginative, and ardent as the well-educated peasantry of Scotland are allowed to be. Then think, I say, what must have been their comments and conjectures, when, on an unrestricted evening, they met in little groups on the hill-sides or in the vales, and speculated, while casting their eyes to the west, where, before the sun again rose, a mighty flotilla might be spread! Nay, like wild-fire, more than once the rumour ran at midnight, that the enemy was in the bay, and landing myriads of troops, nothing short of bloodshed and insatiable rapine being the evils immediately looked for. And though, on one of these occasions, the only cause of alarm had been taken from a moonlight glimpse of a few smuggling craft from the Western Islands, that had stealthily stood in for the bay to land a quantity of

illicit whisky, yet nothing less than the morning sun could dissipate the delusion.

It was in 1805, I believe, that some of the most active preparations were made, or were reported to be made, by the French, for the avowed purpose of invading great Britain. The flotilla at Boulogne was said to be greatly increased, and an army of 100,000 well-disciplined troops, put under the command of an able General, it was added, were constantly kept in readiness to step on board, and be wafted, in a marvellously short space of time, to our peaceful shores. But such was the dread lest our country, which had been so long unprofaned by foreign foes, should be thus visited, and such the patriotism and spirit of resistance which animated the people, that the number of volunteers trained to military service speedily amounted to 300,000. My native parish, of course, furnished its quota; and to the organization and early history of this corps the following particulars principally relate.

Here it may be remarked that the young of the present day cannot experience anything like an adequate conception of the ardour and the sacrifices that were witnessed at the period referred to; nor, indeed, is it possible that they ever shall, until they behold the hearths and the altars of a patriotic and unoppressed people threatened with immediate and foreign violation. Even my own recollections, I find, require to be wooed and set in order, to be buttressed by recalling a number of enfeebled associations, before I can bring home to my heart with a tolerable degree of freshness and fixedness the incidents, the cast of features, and the spirit which distinguished "The Days of the Volunteers." I begin at my father's house.

For several centuries my predecessors had been farmers, and during the greater and latter portion of that time they had rented the same lands which my father occupied, with credit to themselves and benefit to the community. Indeed, the result of their united and persevering industry and thrift was the purchase, by my father, of a large extent of moorland, a good many miles inland from the place where they had "feathered their nest," as the provincial phrase goes. This lay on the southern slope of the southernmost ridge of hills that guarded the intersecting stream already mentioned. Here my father was born, and here, not many years ago, he died. This was the spot which he and his offspring regarded with far more fond attachment and delight than any acquired property situated elsewhere; and here it was that, out of five sons, four of them at one time belonged to our parish volunteers, each of them entering the service with alacrity and enthusiasm, though the years of the youngest, at the time he donned the red coat, scarcely enabled him to shoulder his musket.

Well do I remember the day, or rather the affecting evening hour, when, in family conclave, my eldest brother devoted himself and was consecrated by his parents to the office of defending his native land. It was immediately after Government had called for a speedy enlargement of the volunteer force, and when the threatened danger seemed to be most imminent. The solemnity of which I speak took place on a Sabbath eve, just after the whole family had gathered and composed themselves around the cheerful kitchen hearth, as was our wont on the sacred day, but never more sedately and thoughtfully than on the occasion I speak of; for none of us had ever known a season of such

unusual importance in the annals of our parish. Even in his afternoon discourse of that same day, our venerable pastor had addressed himself explicitly and wholly to the signs and the exigencies of the time, and, with more than his usual fervour, pathos, and eloquence, he had striven to spirit on his flock to active and immediate measures.

"Waste not your hours, my dear children and brethren," said he, "in vain laments and speculations, but rather, in the scourge that menaces us, recognise the teachings of a Father, who wills that we should be tried, that those who are at ease and falsely secure in Zion may be aroused, and that the pious may be invigorated in their pilgrimage to heaven. This is not the season when glad tidings from earthly potentates are proclaimed. We must reverse the language of the prophet, and turn our ploughshares into swords, and our pruning-hooks into spears. The Corsican threatens: he may be within our gates ere another moon lightens our land. Were I of the young or the robust, I would respond to my beloved Sovereign's call, and buckle on the weapons of war without a day's delay. I would come, if the danger required it, to this watch-tower for heaven's King, wearing the insignia and the accoutrements of mortal conflict, knowing that he well serves God who strenuously and faithfully loves and defends his neighbour and his country. But, though stricken in years, I will not, if life and health be vouchsafed to me, be a mere looker-on. Let my equals in age, the elders of the congregation, assemble with me in this sacred house to-morrow, and take counsel together. It is not property, nor limb, nor life, nor name, nor nation, that are alone in jeopardy, but our religion."

In this strain did the holy and zealous man address his flock—indignant, tender, and magnanimous by turns—arousing all who heard him to an unwonted pitch of virtuous enthusiasm. On the preceding day Captain D—, who was the principal proprietor in the parish, had convoked a meeting of the able-bodied inhabitants, and appealed to them, though in a different, yet in a harmonious manner, as became an old military officer. But the veteran's address required to be backed by our revered pastor, as was most effectually done; for before another week elapsed many in the parish were not only in heart, but in habit, volunteer-recruits.

But to return to my father's fireside. "Robert," said he to the eldest of his children, "what think you of it?"—alluding thus indefinitely in point of words to that which every one present felt to be sufficiently well understood to require a closer or fuller description. My mother spoke first, and interposed something like a doubt respecting the suitability of the discussion for the sabbath; though, perhaps, her main design was to evade its probable termination. But she was instantly silenced by my father's announcement that the sabbath would not protect us against the usurper and the infidel's invasion. "Will you, Robert," continued he, "fight for our kindred and country, our heritage and religion?" "I shall be a volunteer," was the firm and prompt reply. "And I—and I—and I," were the rapid sequences of the three junior striplings, who were divided from the eldest by slight and gradual stages in the matter of years. But the strongest emotion attended our father's deliberate and resolved declaration, when he added—"I also shall be of the armed host;" for she, whom it most concerned, arose to withdraw, only able to articulate, "And I am to be a widow and child-

less." "No, Marion," my father rejoined, "you and our youngest will tend our flocks, and have a home for the survivors when they return from battle." Thus ended that evening's colloquy, on which the simple but overcharged bosoms of a united family, who spoke, under the influence of solemnized and exaggerating fancies, mingled their yearning and patriotic emotions, in a manner not more alien to their ordinary intercourse and style of speech than illustrative of the spirit that prevailed at the beginning of "The Days of the Volunteers."

If I remember aright, in the self-same week that thus commenced, above fifty of the likeliest men and youths of our parish enrolled themselves as volunteers. Only two of my brothers, however, at this early date joined the corps; more matured reflection and our mother's tears rendering a greater sacrifice at the time unadvisable, at least as regarded the most efficient of the armed volunteer associations of that period; for I must not neglect to do my father's courage and consistency justice, and to state that he was as good as his first declaration professed, becoming an early and strenuous supporter of the reverend and venerable Dr. B—, our beloved minister, at the Monday meeting named from the pulpit. Nor were there fewer than thirty grey-headed men in this association of ancients, some of whom, though hale, could number more than threescore and ten winters. This corps took to themselves the imposing title of "The Army of Reserve," but the wags of the parish dubbed them "The Hams," in allusion, I believe, to the sort of domestic warfare, or guardianship rather, which they were most likely to exercise. Their armour consisted of spears or pikes of vast dimensions in point of length. Nor did this association exhaust the whole of our pugnacious representatives; for a goodly number, of boys of an age like my own, incontinently imitated their elders and their betters in everything which their rivalry could reach. These were called "The Wee (little) Volunteers," who played at *soldiers* with marvellous dexterity, especially in marching and countermarching—their wooden muskets and tin bayonets being, as in the case of other pretenders, more formidable to the eye than effective in action. But I have not yet enumerated or described all the associations that banded in my native parish for the public safety, though those now mentioned were the only protectors who took to themselves the armour of the battle-field.

There was at the time I speak of—the time of intensest alarm—an association of an anomalous kind, and which might appropriately be called "The Army of Totals." This force consisted of old and young—I may say that it embraced men, women, and children; in short, it partook of all those who were capable of any exertion, and who had not enlisted themselves among the fighting volunteers. This heterogeneous army was constituted in the following manner and for the following purposes.

As it was thought probable that an invading power might land on the adjacent coast, the most influential men in the parish, as did those in the adjoining districts, went from house to house, and put it to men and women how and what they were likely or willing to do in the case of such an emergency. It was at the same time intimated that, to cut off the supplies which the enemy might require, all the grain and provisions which could not be conveyed to the interior would have to be burned by the inhabitants themselves, while the cattle and flocks would

have to be driven towards the moors and other inaccessible parts of the country. "Whether will you be a burner, a pioneer, a carrier, or a driver?" were the questions that the honest men propounded to every one who was unable or unwilling to carry arms, and the answers were regularly taken down, that it might be known what and who were to be calculated upon. Was that not a strange time, when such a rural and peaceful population thus distributed and organized themselves? And may we not demand of the scoffer at our national valour, or of him who ridicules the ardour of an untrained and inexperienced peasantry, how was such a people as now described to be vanquished and permanently subdued?

Such were the volunteer associations that instantly started into activity in our sequestered and once tranquil parish. In truth it was a strange time, yet one which it is impossible for a native of these kingdoms to regard without lofty emotions of gratulation and pride. How changed was the aspect which it gave, even to every-day life, compared to a period of profound repose! At first, from Monday to Saturday, whatever might be the ordinary pursuits of the parties, or the state of the weather, there might be seen, during a portion of almost every day, squads of robust and promising young men parading and manœuvring away at the command of a driller. "The Army of Reserve" was for a time equally on the alert with their juniors, nor were the signs of the times less characteristically manifested by "The Wee Volunteers;" the various associations finding ample scope for their evolutions within the pleasure-grounds of Captain D——; and while he commanded the most efficient corps, and his son was at the head of the juveniles, the Rev. Dr. B——, with unsurpassed zeal, was the leader of "The Hams."

Rapid and wonderful was the progress which all who were skilled in military affairs allowed that these different bodies made in the art of war. To be sure, "The Wee Volunteers," though profuse in point of ornamental mimicry, were chiefly celebrated for their buoyancy of spirit at that period; yet some of them in after years won the laurels of conquerors. "The Army of Reserve" was, considering all circumstances, not less worthy of being complimented, for, though the light-headed might ridicule them, there was a view in which their zeal should have been most warmly applauded and touchingly regarded. Was it not curious—was it not affecting to see these *ancients*, many of whom had never beheld a regiment of soldiers in their lives, all at once assume a uniform which bore a military sign, and submit to be paraded and exercised like young recruits? The functionary who put our parish *Hams* through their facings happened also to add a singular character to the submission and the studies of these fathers of the people. He was an old soldier, and a man of the most irregular habits. He had served in the American war, and was minus a leg; he was also as great a braggadocio and tyrant, where his authority extended, as drunkenness and a little brief occasional power would allow. True, it was no easy matter for any one, and particularly such an irritable old coxcomb as Andrew Macbride happened to be, to set in array and reduce to military uniformity the movements of a corps where the stooping and the mis-jointed had to *fall in* with the spindle-shanked and pot-bellied. Most lustily did he lecture and chafe them; not forgetting the Minister, who

in the course of his vocation had often bestowed somewhat mercilessly on the old serjeant the weight of spiritual discipline.

But I must not longer mix up the story of our volunteers with any notices but such as relate to the efficient corps that was generally meant by the distinctive name; for, not to speak of their superior value, they alone survived the extreme excitement which attended their organization, and the most alarming reports of invasion. In after years, when similar rumours were propagated, the people had nearly relapsed into their wonted security, regarding them as matters of course, as a worn-out tale, or as sufficiently provided against by the wisdom of their rulers and the strength of our armies at home and abroad. Accordingly the carriers, the drivers, the pioneers, the burners, the juveniles, and the reserve, were ere long but the themes of gossip, and nothing remained amongst us of all these warlike symptoms, but the more perfect and regularly-embodied corps, cherished and favoured by Government whether when denominated volunteers or a local militia.

The patriotic feelings, the apprehension of danger, and the sense of duty, which at first induced many a young man to offer himself as a military defender of his home, his neighbourhood, and his country, happily, when the excitement that originally had been most stimulating had subsided, acquired other adjuncts which lent zest and support to the volunteer system. It was indeed impossible for a number of persons, who belonged to a limited circle, and whose grade in life and habits of thinking were much akin, to associate frequently and regularly upon the same concern, without originating new ties and sentiments of cordiality of an enduring and somewhat exclusive nature. The very exercises necessary to be studied and oft repeated, to go no farther than the uses of a manly pastime, had their peculiar and salutary results. Playing at *soldiers* was a phrase sufficiently appreciated in our parish: a sort of play, however, which was always considered to have a rational purpose—that could never dwindle into frivolity, nor disturb the comforts of domestic life, nor be regarded with disrespect by any class of the community. Besides the ties in life, and the creation of an attractive and rational pastime, the improvements which military exercise and discipline conferred on national manners were very observable. The gait and bearing which was thus lent to the most uncultivated rustics were indications of more extensive benefits than at first may be contemplated. How often have I seen my brothers, with some of their fellow volunteers, congregate in my father's barn, and disport themselves in military exercise, to the entertainment of old and young, male and female, and to their own advantage! Be assured the practice which these homely drillings imposed upon each man in his turn, merely in the matter of giving the word of command, was not entirely fruitless of good. The loud laugh, or the lesson that was bestowed according to the accuracy of the parties—say of the temporary officer—whether it regarded the precision of his eye, the modulations of his voice, or the tension and sententiousness of his words—did not go for nothing. At any rate the combined influences of the volunteer system conferred upon society a peculiarly interesting and valuable character. There was, however, one special concomitant belonging to “The Days of the Volunteers,” as experienced in many a district, but perhaps no-

where in a more remarkable manner than in my native parish, which it is extremely delightful to commemorate.

We had, in like manner, as there is in every considerable section of society, in our parish several sprightly, ingenious, and talented young men, though only artisans or cultivators of the soil, who were sure to take the lead in every new enterprise, and who in no very remote degree trod in the steps of their betters, or of those who enjoyed superior opportunities in various branches of knowledge and elegant acquirements. We had not only amongst us poets and portrait-painters; but naturalists, astronomers, casuists, and polemical writers. Politics and liberalism, excepting in the case of a poor worthless body—a starved tailor—who laboured to propagate the doctrines of the French revolutionary school, and who called himself one of the “Friends of the people” (save the mark!), had not yet agitated our loyal parish. But of all the acquirements of which we could boast, none was so remarkable as our taste and talent in vocal music. The truth is, that Dr. B——, our worthy pastor, who frequently solaced himself by discoursing with his violin, had been at great pains to improve the psalmody in his church, and had educated a band that probably could not at that time be surpassed by any similar body in the capital of the kingdom. It was so excellent as to breed a sort of schism in the parish; for some of the most old-fashioned of the adherents of the Covenant denounced the innovation as a remnant of Popery, and either absented themselves from the church on this account altogether, or kept their lips sealed during the psalm-singing—afraid of joining in a profanation. But who could have conjectured that these prejudices were utterly to be put to flight by the introduction of the volunteer system and its accompaniments? Yet it was so, and thus it was:—

No sooner was the association in question organized than our gifted and gallant lads bethought themselves of an instrumental band for the performance of military music and spirit-stirring marches, to grace and elevate the character of our volunteer corps. And now the enlightened interpreters of the purposes and beauties of church melody, feeling the value of the accident, speedily and munificently seconded the tasteful enterprise; thus carrying off the laurels on the subject that had occasioned a split amongst the zealous; for it was now conceded that that which invigorated and sublimated the hearts of the people in the cause of an earthly prince's soldiery could not be unbecoming as a handmaiden of devotion in the good fight of faith. In these circumstances funds were not wanting to procure competent teachers and the necessary instruments; while the rapid advancement which was made in their new studies by our ardent lads soon commanded the universal admiration, delight, and wonder of the dullest amongst us.

What a drumming and fifeing, bugling and braying, was there sent forth over hill and dale, by these performers in the course of their practising, evening after evening! Crowds or groups of the people might be seen here and there, at these touching seasons, listening with interest and unalloyed delight, as well as boastful exultation, to our volunteer band. There were few in the parish who had not some particular friend, or lover, or son, or brother, whose skill was remarkable in the harmony. Without exaggeration, at least, I can attest that never did the melting

and arousing power of music appear to me to be more signally felt. On no other occasions has my own bosom experienced such tumultuous emotions as in those seasons of my young romance, when of a summer's eve our sprightly youths, parading in the embowered privacy of their Captain's pleasure-ground, drew from their instruments tensest notes, to be borne or echoed through the quiescent air, or upon the breeze to every nook, and vale, and *brae*, for miles around. I know that the melody failed not to sweep with swelling or fitful cadence over the uplands, and athwart the hill side, where stood my father's house, and to touch some bosoms within the precincts of that sanctuary of love and virtue with many an undefinable but ennobling impulse. The resoundings through the woods, and the echoings from rock to rock, that I have listened to, times without number, in those days, and in those peaceful retreats, have often, in my latter history, when I was alone, or among strangers, or care-worn, or discomfited in spirit, sped over the interval, and thrilled within the secret chambers of my nature some sentiment long unstrung, making me partake of the pristine enjoyment—the conscious assurance of the identity affording a satisfaction, perhaps, not less gratifying than the recollected pleasure itself.

Such an era as the one I am describing necessarily, in such a locality as that of my native parish, brought to light many points and singularities of character, which in the ordinary history of a rural population could never have been discovered. It would be inexcusable in this hasty record to overlook the Captain's hearty and unlimited patronage in behalf of his men; for he was not only their considerate commander, and a brother soldier, but he took a fatherly interest in the welfare of each and all of them. It was not that he continued to be the most regular, assiduous, and earnest in his duties, or that his lady presented the corps with a stand of colours on the day that the men first paraded in full uniform, or that his daughters made with their own hands, and bestowed on each of the volunteers, a couple of flannel vests, in anticipation of a hard winter's campaign; or that, whenever the inclemency of the weather was the cause of unusual discomfort on drill and field-days, he treated them at his own hall-door with such refreshments as intimated how peculiar and sound was the character of his regard. He was more than all this to them; and, though I cannot adduce a sufficiently expressive picture of the many nameless and delicate passages of his kindness, it may with perfect truth be declared that he took a special interest in their private history from that time forward. If any poor man among his numerous tenantry had a son belonging to the volunteers, this was an argument in his favour that was sure to command from the Captain substantial and lasting favours.

And here I cannot but take notice of the saddest episode of any in the history of our volunteers, or, indeed, of a public nature, that I ever witnessed in the district. It will also serve to illustrate the Captain's character, as well as the sentiments of the community at that extraordinary period.

It was not to be expected that, of a corps so numerous as that of our volunteers, any very considerable length of time could elapse before some of them should be called away from this scene of anxiety and exertion. But, for the first twelve months after they had been em-

bodied, not a single gap was thus produced in their original complement. It became, therefore, a subject of no slight concern, when the first breach by death occurred in their ranks.

James Moreton was the eldest son of one of the Captain's tenantry, and died of a lingering decline. For months, however, after this fallacious disease had fastened upon him, he continued to attend every drill. He had been a robust young man, and was one of the most enthusiastic of our volunteers; and he seemed to refuse to be overcome by the fell enemy. It was pitiful to see how he strove to go through the necessary manœuvres, when he had not the strength to handle his arms with certitude,—so eager was he to keep by his comrades. At length, it being in summer, he was only able to march with them to the exercise-ground, and then leave the ranks till the drum beat for their return to the village. But neither few nor vague were the inquiries nor the attentions to which he was subjected, during the interval, while reclined upon the rustic seat in the neighbourhood of the volunteers, where a group of the old and young spectators never failed to surround him; nor was the Captain's device, of making his men perform their most interesting evolutions within the close inspection of the invalid, the least delicate of those passages of kindness. But this was not all; for James Moreton had in his commanding officer a daily visitant, and a never-failing giver; and, ere the close of the last dark scene of mortality, he blessed the dying volunteer with the assurance that his father, who was a poor man and a widower, should never be turned out of the farm.

But what I have chiefly upon my heart, with respect to the first departed of our volunteers, is to speak of his funeral. As already mentioned, James Moreton's death formed the earliest breach in the corps; the people were enthusiasts in everything connected with the establishment; and, when it was proposed by the Captain that the burial should be conducted according to military etiquette, the idea was cordially and generally approved of. Was it not strange that such an innovation should be tolerated among this primitive and simple-hearted community? But these were the "days of the volunteers," when the sympathies of all, whether of a gladsome, magnanimous, or distressful kind, were in unison or borne along with the ideas of the country's defence and renown. That the bereaved father, however, who was a plain, staid man, should have acceded to the extraordinary proposal, afforded also a striking instance of how speedily and completely the soldier-system might be engrafted upon the most retired peasantry. Here was the most solemn duty that falls to the lot of man to perform to man, which, even among the Presbyterian austere simplicities, is one of simplest—according to its usual performance in Scotland—about to be distinguished by many formalities and much parade, in a corner of the land where no such thing had ever been witnessed by any of the living generation, merely because the whole population had put on, if not the soldier's uniform, at least the feelings and associations belonging to the soldier's life. The funeral of James Moreton, which, in ordinary circumstances would have been as noiseless and unostentatious as is possible where a number of mourners congregate to give to the churchyard a new tenant, in a country where not a whispered word is usually uttered at that sad instant when dust mingles with dust—tears, sighs, and uncovered heads being all the show—was to form an epoch in our

parish annals. The senseless clay was to be borne shoulder high,—the great body of the mourners wearing a military uniform, carrying glittering arms, and marching to the sound of the muffled drum and solemn music. But strangest and most heart-rending of all was the moment when the musketry announced that the grave had obtained its new charge—that the funeral obsequies were completed. What a concourse of spectators, male and female,—the old as curious as the young,—mantled the grave-stones and walls of our decent churchyard on that sorrowful occasion! The people were strangely moved while only anticipating prospectively the extraordinary ceremony: how much more deeply affected must they have been when they became the immediate witnesses of its celebration! Eyes that swam in tears sparkled and dilated as if sudden inspiration had entered their souls; and the nature of these blended emotions might be construed from the nature of the ejaculations that escaped the lips of individuals. I overheard an old man say, when the volleys uttered the mimicry of war—"The day of battle is surely at hand;" and a female, equally sententious and prophetic, improved upon this, and said—"Jamie Moreton, poor lad! hears not this; nor will he awake when the battle is at our doors; but when the last trump sounds, Jamie shall come forth from that grave, to be, I doubt not, of the number of the just."

The circumstances which I have been enumerating may be taken as strong evidences in reference to the deep and universally-pervading sentiments that characterised the "Days of the Volunteers." I would also remark that the patriotism that was thus evinced passed readily into religious feelings, to which, indeed, it is nearly related. Respect and veneration towards the supreme and constituted authorities of the land, I think, are identified with the highest attestations of love of country; and surely obedience and strenuous attachment to these human authorities can never be found severed from fidelity to Heaven. In my parish, at least, and in the days I speak of, religion, loyalty, and patriotism were seen to be most harmoniously united and inseparable; nor in any other part of the nation, where I have since that period resided, have I ever known a professor of love to God, country, or king, taking any one of these, in a disunited and solitary condition, who could have stood the test, even upon his own favourite and individual theme, with the three-fold lovers I strive to commemorate.

But it would be too much to say that all the professed friends of our volunteers deserved the high commendation now bestowed. There was, for example, old Andrew Macbride, who had been a soldier for more than twenty years, whose occasional efforts to benefit them seemed solely to be prompted by selfish motives—for he could, at other times, bitterly ridicule and revile the establishment. He it was who had been drill-serjeant to the "Hams;" but after their dissolution he formed a sort of anomalous connexion with the surviving volunteers, by becoming feather-maker to the majority of them.

For a considerable period after they were embodied there was no precise regulation enforced with respect to the shape of the item in the appointments upon which Andrew exercised so much of his taste and ingenuity. If supplied with the fleece of a snow-white chanticleer, and a certain consideration, he would, with the addition of some adhesive material, thread, and whalebone, set up an article that would not have

disgraced a Field-Marshal's Aide-de-Camp. There was sad havoc, in consequence of the veteran's adorning occupation, wrought upon the comforts of the crowing gentry of the farm-yard—not that they suffered the martyrdom of having their necks drawn in the King's cause, though their case was not much more preferable—for they had, in this region of their bodies, as well as that near the tail, every lancet-like and wavy-feather plucked, leaving the former space as bare as the palm of my hand. I remember the old rascal got my eldest brother persuaded to intrust him for a short time with two of my mother's finest crows, declaring that they would neither suffer pain nor inconvenience of any kind from his treatment of them. I was the stealthy carrier of the gallant cocks to the tormentor's crib, and also the distressed witness of their torture. There they were, one after the other, imprisoned between Andrew's knees, while he tore from their skin every part of their gay attire that suited his purpose. It was not the moulting season, so that a heart-piercing sort of shriek ensued, which to this day I think I could imitate with my own voice, so deeply impressed did the oft-repeated cry become which these harmless creatures gave forth during their slow and excruciating martyrdom. I never forgave the old pensioner, neither did my mother; for, though she valued the sufferers beyond their real worth, it was the cruelty inflicted upon them, and their damaged condition, which most affected her. She could not, however, at her will array them anew, or make them any amends; but she did the next kindest thing—this was to put them beyond the reach of pain the instant she perceived their deplorable fate.

It would carry me farther than intended in this paper were I to go into all the scenes and notable things which I remember connected with our volunteers. Field-days, the 4th of June, the jubilee in 1809, and the annual periods when the whole regiment to which our corps belonged went to the county-town upon permanent duty, might each supply me with characteristic and interesting materials.

One question, in conclusion, may aptly be suggested by the foregoing particulars:—Are the people of Great Britain more enlightened, more virtuous, or more happy, now, than they were in the "Days of the Volunteers?" I am not competent to answer the query, when embracing such an extensive field; but I think it may be safely affirmed that, in so far as my native parish is concerned, the answer must be in the negative. There is, at least, more restlessness, and greater divisions of opinion now, than there were then. Improvements in the state of society, it is undeniable, have been of late years introduced; but there have also been doctrines mooted and inculcated of high pretensions, that have not hitherto brought the promised good. Yet I will not be a grumbler or a prophet of evil: I believe that there is an onward march appointed still for the people of this country, and to a great extent through them for the whole human family, towards higher civilization—consisting of knowledge, refinement, and virtue; and that, however numerous or alarming may be the crudities in matters of speculation at the present day, the dross is destined to subside to the bottom, and to become innocuous; and that everything will finally be found to have tended to the greatest possible amount of good to the species. One thing seems incontrovertible respecting the peculiar features of the present era—the love of war with the sword has given place

in the most enlightened nations of Europe to a war of opinions maintained by the pen. At the same time, were foreign enemies to invade our land, or again threaten to commit the violation, every Briton feels conscious that the "Days of the Volunteers" would be revived, and their scenes re-enacted, with all their former spirit and formidable effect; and though the "Hans," perhaps without an exception, have gone to the land of forgetfulness, and many of the more regular and permanent corps inhabit the churchyard where James Moreton's remains sleep, yet it is certain that not a few of their descendants, and of those that were "wee," would buckle on the sword, and be a host deserving of a better historian than

G. A.

DESPERATE AFFAIR AT BENI DORMÉ OF LIEUT. DWYER AND
BOAT'S CREW OF H.M.S. MINSTREL, IN 1812.

If our gallant deed can be rescued from the fading remembrance of our naval or military renown, it is a duty we owe our country, and an oblation to the manes of those brave men whose blood and mortal remains are mingled with the depths of the ocean, or the dust of the fields of glory won by their courage. Few indeed are now left to attest acts of solitary valour; still fewer of the actors now live who shared in the daring enterprise of the old war. Let us not, however, forget their devotion, but snatch from oblivion achievements that still remain brilliant though distant beacons of our country's glory. Among the bold deeds of the period none perhaps is more deserving a proud remembrance than the following daring attempt to cut three privateers out of the port of Beni Dormé, on the coast of Catalonia. Success, it is true, did not attend these gallant men, but even failure excited their courage to a defence desperate as it was honourable, attested by their wounds and the admiration of a generous and brave enemy.

During the Peninsular war of 1812 H.M.S. Minstrel, Capt. Peyton, was stationed on the south-east coast of Spain, to co-operate with the division under Sir John Murray, then opposed to Marshal Suchet, besieging Valencia; a strong detachment of French troops occupying the small town of Beni Dormé, on the coast, as an outpost. It was observed early in August, 1812, that three felucas, privateers, had taken shelter in the port, and, as they were closely watched by the Minstrel, it no doubt led them to suspect some attempt would be made to cut them out. To guard against it they were observed to haul up as high as possible on the beach, remove their rudders, and use every precaution to frustrate any attempt that might be made on them. Six nine-pounders were also added to the battery that commanded every approach from the sea; this battery was manned by their united crews, consisting, as was well known, of about eighty men, well armed. Looking on these vessels from day to day was as tantalizing as it was exciting to the gallant fellows of the Minstrel; but any attempt in the face of the French troops, only a few yards in their rear, was too unpromising to be thought of. It, however, fell to the lot of Mr. Dwyer, of H.M.S. *Unité* (but then doing duty as Lieutenant of the Minstrel), to suggest to Captain Peyton

a plan either to bring out or destroy the enemy, by landing out of sight, and getting in their rear, the very first moment the French detachment should leave Beni Dormé. This shortly occurred, as, on a demonstration made by Sir John Murray to relieve Valencia, Suchet drew in his outposts, and Mr. Dwyer was informed by a Spanish fisherman, well known to him, that the place had been evacuated, leaving only the crews of the privateers to protect their vessels.

Accordingly, on the evening of the 12th of August, 1812, to use Mr. Dwyer's own words, "it became my duty to row guard. I picked my boat's crew, each man armed with a musket, pistols, and cutlass, and, under pretext of landing for sand, left the ship with my brave fellows, determined to bring out or burn the enemy. We landed, in all nine of us—too few, true, but I knew my men had the hearts of ninety-nine. To make matters as sure as possible, and prevent, in case of any disaster, the boat falling into the hands of the enemy, I told my men that it must return to the ship. On hearing this a difficulty arose among them as to who should take the boat back, each man exclaiming, 'You don't doubt me, surely, Mr. Dwyer?—you won't send me, Sir,' &c. 'My lads,' I said, 'You know I have made choice of you all out of the whole ship's company for the enterprise of this night; you know me well, as it is not the first time we have acted together; the boat shall proceed to the ship; follow my orders—all but Clarke (the coxswain) draw lots; the shortest rope-yarn decides the man who must take the boat off.' They drew; the lot fell on one of the very best of my men—if, indeed, there was a choice to be made among them. As to the poor fellow, his mortification is not to be described, and he actually shed tears on shaking my hand and bidding his shipmates farewell. I directed this man to pull a mile into the offing in the direction of the ship, there to wait for the result of the attack; that, should there be much firing, and should it cease and no blue-light be shown about a quarter of an hour after, then he was to regain the ship with all speed; as in that event we should not have succeeded. With these orders, I made him push from the shore, and we started for the battery, I and my seven men, full of confidence, supposing we had only the eighty privateers' gentry to encounter, who, in their surprise and consequent confusion, we should soon 'square the yards with.'

"We had landed about two miles and a half to the south-west of the town and battery; it was a beautiful, starlight, calm evening, about half-past nine. To avoid discovery, I made the men keep in shore of me, while I walked out more openly. We had not proceeded above a mile when, rather to my surprise, I was challenged by a *vaquí*, which I answered in Spanish, and we were allowed to pass. When clear of the unlooked-for fellow, I got my men together, and told them we had more on our hands than we expected, as I was inclined to think the enemy had again taken up their old quarters at Beni Dormé, so that the question was now impossible, and to surrender ourselves prisoners quite out of the question; we must make a bold dash with circumspection, and trust to Providence and our own good arms for the result. They one and all said, 'We see how it is, Sir; if you will lead us on, we will follow you.' 'On then, my lads, and be silent—not a word; I will answer; keep close to the water's edge; I will walk higher up to meet any sentinel that may be near, and on no account speak or fire.'

"I had scarcely given these precautions, when a cavalry sentinel cried, '*Qui vive ?*' '*Pisano*,' I replied, and he suffered us to pass. We now approached the entrance of the town—a long wide street lay before us. We were again challenged by a sentinel, who demanded who I was, and who those men below me were? This man was a soldier; I told him we were fishermen, and had lost our boat, taken by the English, and were returning home. 'Then you may pass on,' said he. He saved his own life, for things were becoming desperate; had he detained me, I should have shot him dead—I held my pistol cocked in my hand. This alternative, for all our sakes, was spared me. To gain the battery, now in sight, and full of men (for they had discovered the boat in the distance), we had to traverse the main street—and here I saw realized what I had not been willing to believe, that the French troops were bivouacing in that very street, having just marched into the town, and piled their arms; they had lighted fires on each side of it, and were busily employed cooking their suppers, leaving the centre of it quite clear. This was a critical and embarrassing situation; the odds were dreadfully against us; upwards of 200 men actually surrounding us as soon as we should enter the street. Before doing so, I said to my men (having the touch at the battery and privateers still at heart), 'Keep close, but at a careless distance, from me and the coxswain, and on no account seem disposed to shun any soldier that may speak to you—answer something, and pass on.'

"After this precaution, we entered the hostile street, gleaming on either side with the piled arms, and lighted up by the fires of the fatigued soldiers. It is most extraordinary, armed as we were with muskets, pistols, and cutlass, myself carrying a drawn sword, in a calm and clear Mediterranean night, when everything is seen as distinctly almost as at mid-day, and passing through a street half a mile in length—that we were not even thought suspicious, but passed unmolested to our field of action, except by the kind offers of the French soldiers to share their hospitality."

"At the end of the street we came to within a few yards of the battery. Knowing how well they were supported in their rear, they little dreamt of an attack from that quarter, but were fully prepared to repel any from seaward; the battery was full of men, and many more, well armed, were lying close to their vessels, anxiously watching my boat in the offing. 'Now, my lads,' cried I, 'is the time; no firing—recollect the fellows in our rear; let it be all cutlass-work; follow me closely.' We were upon them in a moment; and, after a short but most severe struggle, we drove them out of the battery. Many wounds were given and received by my brave fellows; I was cut over the forehead by an axe, but succeeded in disabling my antagonist, and, willing to spare his life, pushed him under a gun, but, while I was in the act of spiking it, he attempted to shoot me, and was instantly shot by Clarke the coxswain. After spiking the guns, and disabling the battery, we turned our attention to the privateers, but they were found so hard and fast aground, besides being heavily chained to anchors on shore, that nothing on the instant could be carried into effect for their capture or destruction, as their crews had now rallied and attacked us, and the bloody fray was again renewed hand to hand on the beach; but they were quickly driven back, leaving several dead behind them.

"In the mean time the French troops, aroused by the firing, beat to arms, and came down upon us, discharging whole volleys into the battery, into which we had returned to defend ourselves, and wounding some of my men every instant. They, however, maintained this unequal contest until every cartridge was expended. Our fire ceasing, the enemy closed on us, and we were charged on every side with the bayonet. Quarter was neither asked nor given, and my brave fellows, after defending themselves to the last, were at length borne down, overpowered by numbers, covered with the blood of their numerous wounds: every man being desperately hurt, though, strange to say, but one was killed outright; twenty-three wounds fell to my share in this unfortunate affair, seventeen of which were bayonet-thrusts in the charge, and my right arm quite disabled by a musket-shot through the shoulder.

"Twelve of the privateers' men were killed, and several wounded. The loss of the troops was difficult to ascertain, but that they suffered a good deal there can be no doubt, from the close order in which they advanced on us. My gallant seamen were conducted to the quarters of General Gondamin, who, as well as the men and officers of the 19th Voltigeurs, their captors, treated them with that kindness and sympathy ever conspicuous in the generous and brave. Their wounds were examined, and several found dangerous. One of the brave fellows had lost an eye in the battery, but, tying the wound up, said he 'still had the other left to aim with,' and fired his musket to the last." While Mr. Dwyer lay on his mattress in the guard-house, one of the privateers' men stole near it, rendered frantic by a wound and the death of his father, and made a stab at him with his knife—but, fortunately, he was not destined to lose his valuable life; this wretch was hurried out by the French guard, well strapped, and sent about his business. Mr. Dwyer was now informed that from the nature of his wounds it was scarcely possible he could live, but to favour his case as much as possible it would, with his consent, be requisite to remove his right arm from the socket.

"Perhaps," says this officer, "from the excitement caused by the affray, and its unfortunate result, I felt a conviction that I should survive, as the pain I felt did not seem commensurate with the unlucky number of my wounds. I therefore declined any surgical operation, nor was it until the next day that the pain became in any way insupportable: the detachment getting under arms, to change their position, I was forced to follow them, weak from loss of blood; I was mounted on a mule—the troops having to pass for an instant under the guns of my own ship, the Minstrel, a grape-shot cut away the animal's fore-legs, the concussion producing the most horrible agony."

Mr. Dwyer and the remainder of his brave men were shortly returned to the service of their country—General Gondamin requesting to keep the hilt of this officer's sword (the blade had been broken in defending himself in the charge) as a memento of so daring an attempt and so brave a defence.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE CAMPAIGN IN SPAIN.

BY A CAPTAIN OF THE LATE BRITISH AUXILIARY LEGION.

No. I.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice.—SHAKESPEARE.

A LOVE of narration has commonly been ascribed to the soldier, in all ages and countries. There is, indeed, a fascination allied to the recollection of past scenes of danger and suffering that almost insensibly prompts one to their recital. To a motive so common, therefore, may be ascribed, in a great measure, the appearance of the following sheets. It is not my intention, however, in describing the events and circumstances that fell under my notice, to enter into any political reflections apart from my narrative, as to the line of conduct pursued by the British and Spanish Cabinets during the war, having already been anticipated in that respect, by so many other publications. Indeed, I do not think I could possibly pay a better compliment to our late foreign line of policy than by saying as little as possible about it, and its consequences, for the suppression of the civil war in Spain by the force of arms.

It will generally be remembered that the Foreign Enlistment Bill was suspended by an order in council, bearing date June 10th, 1835, for the space of two years, during which period British subjects were allowed to enlist and serve in the Army or Navy of H. M. F. Catholic Majesty Isabella II. of Spain.

The news of this legislative permission of the Government created not a little sensation at the time among the idle, the thoughtless, and the adventurous; and the consequence was, I believe, for the first month there were nearly as many candidates for commissions in the new legion as for the ranks. Poor General Evans was beset, morning, noon, and night, by "friends and acquaintances," and, worse than all, by *hordes* of young men and lads with letters of introduction and recommendation from various people, that verily I believe it would have taken up the entire time of a secretary and board of clerks to have read and replied to. All day long, for the period of a month, there was a general and sometimes systematic hunt after the commander-in-chief of the Auxiliary Force, who—judging from his looks occasionally in these scenes—seemed to stand a fair chance of being driven mad at the nature of the business he had taken upon himself to conduct. There was, too, a great importation of young men from the Sister Country, all bearers of the *everlasting* letters, and many of whom vowed they *would* see the *General* in spite of himself. These I have occasionally seen at the office in the Strand surround General Evans in sections, thrusting their letters into his hands, and making him look very like a twopenny postman.

Then, with respect to the feats that were to be performed by the British Auxiliary Legion in Spain; it was really quite amusing to hear most of the aspirants after Spanish honours discourse on the subject. The Basque provinces were to be stormed by three columns,—Auxiliary troops, of course, leading, and the Carlists killed and routed completely out of their mountains in a couple of months; and the only fear seemed

to be, that the service would be over too soon. Such, indeed, was the delusion of the enthusiasm generally prevailing, that even grey-headed veterans of the British service, in many instances, fancied they were going to transcend their former glories under the immortal Wellington. Alas! how bitterly has experience proved the utter fallacies of such anticipations.

It is at all times a melancholy subject to reflect upon the rich harvests that Death has gathered upon the fields of Spain; but it becomes a double occasion of regret for those poor fellows of the Legion who have *died in vain*—from whose deaths no actual benefits have accrued to Spain or England in any one respect! Such is the sad reflection that must ever be forced upon our minds by the services of the English in the late campaign. A finer body of men, perhaps, never quitted the British shores, or with more enthusiasm in the cause in which they had embarked, but, perhaps, never was there, in the annals of any country, a force, the power of which was so completely *paralyzed by circumstances* as that of the British Legion; in this sentence its history is at once summed up! But I wander a little from the course of my narrative, and I promise you, most sublime of readers, if you do me the honour of accompanying me, to take you through a strange and motley variety of adventures—false and real attacks, forced marches, and privations on the road, and tell you what we did and would have done, “had we been let,” as I remember a fellow from the ranks one day remarking, together with “sundry gossip” and funny scenes,—that will show you, though an old campaigner, we have in reality been “soldiering” in Spain.

Like hundreds of others who filled the commissions of the new Legion, I was smitten with the sudden love of arms. Indeed, it must candidly be confessed, the prospect was not a little alluring to professional or adventurous minds. Notwithstanding a strong Tory opposition, the service bade fair to be very popular, while the romance of fighting in support of a young Queen, and that, too, in a land the most celebrated and picturesque in the world, already doubly interesting from its having been the scene of British valour on former occasions, created a love and enthusiasm to be employed in the Legion that became general. With regard to myself, the chivalry attendant upon the thing was not to be resisted.

“Come weal, come woe, to Spain I’d go,
And see the war’s commotion.”

Accordingly, having been presented to the “powers that were,” I was immediately nominated to an ensigncy in an Irish regiment then raising at Cork, with orders to join almost immediately. My first error in the service, notwithstanding repeated advice to the contrary from experienced military friends, was, in purchasing a variety of superfluous things for a campaign, and which, as I afterwards discovered, to my regret, there was little chance of conveying on a long and toilsome march. The consequence was, I soon lost, or was plundered, of my extra baggage. Indeed, the more experienced officers who had served before in Spain contented themselves with bringing those things alone indispensable, to the utter exclusion of tall shakos, scarlet and gold. Two months afterwards all finery was selling cheap enough.

Four days after my appointment I started for Bristol, *en route* to Cork, being accompanied by a brother Sub, like myself, going to join.

My companion was a gentlemanly little fellow, and had left a five years' study under the Bar, for all the vicissitudes of a soldier's life.

On embarking on board the steamer on the following morning, we learned that the Colonel of our regiment was on board, and I must confess we were both not a little surprised when he was pointed out to us walking the deck. Instead of the grey-headed veteran we had pictured to ourselves, we beheld a thin, pale, young man, whose appearance would have been effeminate in the extreme, but for mustaches and a large pair of dark whiskers. We also experienced some mortification on learning from another gentleman on board, also about to join our regiment, and who had introduced us to our future Chief, that he had only held the rank of Lieutenant in His Majesty's service. This I thought augured badly for the organization of the Legion; indeed, I must remark that he owed his elevation of rank solely to his name—a most popular one in Ireland.

The following morning we made the green hills of Ireland, and I must confess I never met with scenery at home or abroad that exceeded that in beauty which now met our sight as we entered the fine harbour of the Cove of Cork. The high and verdant banks on either side of the broad expanded river, their high green slopes, studded with white villas and rich gardens, with the view of the little islands of Spike and Harbowling, together with that romantic, interesting little spot, called Monkstown, with its venerable ruins, created a scene on a fine summer's morning, that called forth general expressions of pleasure. It was my first visit to Ireland; and, though I have not seen it since, I trust it will not be my last, as I have but too warm a remembrance of the beauty of its country and the kindness and hospitality of its inhabitants.

On our arrival at Cork I took up my abode at the commercial hotel in Patrick-street, and soon learned there was but little chance of our regiment being raised before the expiration of a month. Meanwhile the recruiting went on over the province of Munster. At first, indeed, the peasantry looked with an eye of extreme suspicion on the promises held out to them as an inducement for joining the Queen of Spain's service, which made many of our most wily serjeants employed in this business admit, that "the boys were not quite so raw as they were during Wellington's time." But after the first week, perceiving that the recruiting was seconded by the Government, we daily went on increasing our numbers; and the "10th Regiment, or Munster Light Infantry," as our corps was designated, promised to be soon completed. Although it was rumoured that Spike Island was to be made our depôt, and I believe repeated applications were vainly made to the Government for that purpose, a large building, a short distance from Patrick-street, that had formerly been used for the manufacture of glass, was appropriated to the purpose of a barrack; and there great numbers of the lower orders flocked daily, many out of curiosity, to see the "Spanish offishers," as they termed us. Our uniforms, which formed the chief attraction, were extremely smart, and rendered much more showy than those worn in the British service, from the scales, which were very handsome, having scarlet linings, and being decorated with silver ornaments. These, worn on our blue undress, together with our swords, having steel scabbards—the worst invention possible for service—made us look much more like Cavalry than Light Infantry.

As may be well imagined, a number of very laughable scenes frequently occurred at our barrack among those who came to "enlist." There were, indeed, numerous applications made to enter the regiment by men under our admitted standard of height (5 feet 6 inches). Many were the different *ruses* employed to overcome this difficulty, but the Serjeant-Major's rule generally decided the matter.* I, however, remember an instance where a sweep presented himself, but was immediately rejected, as being several inches below the requisite stature. In vain he swore, by the holy Virgin, he was as stout of wind and limb as any Munster man, and better than a taller man for hard work; it was to no purpose; and, evidently greatly chagrined, he took his departure, muttering, as he went out, that he would be in the regiment in spite of "ere a one of them, for all they could do." A few days afterwards he made his re-appearance at the head of some four or five of the dusky-habited tribe, whom nature had more liberally favoured in stature than himself. "Step forward, lads!" said the Serjeant-Major in a cheering tone of voice, "you all look likely boys." "Yes, but by the powers we're not going without little Pat here," exclaimed one of the foremost, as he pointed to their lesser leader: "no, we're not going to list without little Pat here," was the general cry. The opportunity of getting five or six fine recruits was not to be neglected. Consequently they, along with "Pat," who had exercised considerable ingenuity in getting his mates into the service, were duly enrolled, to his infinite delight, as he said "he'd long had a mind for a red coat."

Another instance that created a general laugh from the bystanders was in the case of a very raw-boned lad, who, on being measured, scarcely reached the required mark. The Adjutant and Serjeant-Major consulted for a moment as to the propriety of taking him. "He's so thin, sir," observed the Serjeant-Major. "Yes, and he's hardly the height," continued the Adjutant. "True, gentlemen," observed the lad, who was watching them anxiously, "but look how victuals every day will make me *grow*." He was admitted, poor fellow! and, if I mistake not, was one of those that fell a victim to the insatiable fever that carried so many off at Vittoria. But the scenes that occurred with the women, mothers, sisters, wives, and sweethearts, were oftentimes so laughable, that it was a vain attempt to repress one's risibility. At other periods they were sufficiently affecting, more especially as the time drew nigh for our embarkation, when lots were drawn for the women who were to accompany their husbands. But these scenes have been so frequently described by other writers, and so much more powerfully than I should be enabled to depict them, that I will not tire the reader by their repetition. We generally were favoured at our barracks by the presence of nearly all the riff-raff of the city, who came with, or to see, their relatives, that were going to fight for the young Queen of Spain.

As our recruiting drew nigh to a close, we were joined by most of the gentlemen that were to officer the regiment. With the exception of two or three, they were all Irishmen, and a fine set of fellows, with all the spirit requisite for a campaign; but I am sorry to add, saving one or two instances at most, possessed of but little of the experience so requisite for the disciplining of new levies, and that could alone render our troops formidable in the field. The various ranks were filled up, to say the least, with undue partiality or prejudice. Captaincies were given away to men who had never held a commission or seen any service;

while the most experienced officer of the regiment—one who held the rank of Captain in the British Service, who had been a soldier of thirty-five years' standing, and had served in the four quarters of the globe—held only the same rank in our Service as in His Majesty's. This gentleman was Captain James Campbell, of the island of Jersey, on the half-pay of the 35th. Peace be to his manes! He was esteemed by his fellow-officers, and beloved by the men, with whom, indeed, he was a general favourite. Worn out by arduous duties he died a Major at Vittoria, generally lamented and regretted by a host of sincere and attached friends. In consequence of this partial distribution of rank, considerable discontent was naturally engendered in the regiment.

As soon as 500 men had been enlisted, they were given in charge to the Captains, having been told off into different companies. Generally speaking, they were a fine healthy set of men, and their appearance would have done no discredit to any regiment of the line. Great dissatisfaction began now to be expressed at head-quarters in London that the regiment had not been completed, as it was of consequence for the operations to be carried on in Spain that we should lose as little time as possible in making our appearance at Santander. It was ordered that Captain Campbell (there being no Majors yet appointed) should embark with the right wing immediately for Spain. Fortunately, being a Sub in his own company, I was included in the first batch; the second were to follow when raised, with the Colonel. The steamers, Fingal and Earl of Roden, that were destined to carry us to the Spanish shores, had now been waiting in the docks a week, and the former vessel was appropriated for our voyage; but a scene of confusion and tumult of the most disorderly description was to take place before this was effected, that might have been attended with a very serious conclusion. It was ordered by the Colonel that the men should be marched from the barracks by companies separately to the steamers, but unfortunately, evening, the worst time possible, had been chosen for this service, since it gave an additional facility to what was most sought to be guarded against, viz., their desertion. Unfortunately, too, on the day decreed for their embarkation, through some neglect, which I believe was never properly investigated or explained, the men had not been duly served with their rations and sixpences, the result of which was a scene of general murmuring and grumbling, that broke out into open mutiny after the first two companies had gone, and it was attempted to form the remainder to march to the steamers. A guard of old soldiers, whom it was thought could be relied upon, constantly mounted a corporal's guard at the barrack-gate armed with sticks. These, together with myself, who was on orderly duty at the barrack, were assailed by showers of stones from an immense crowd that had collected without, of men, women, and children; while a general shout arose that they were all going to be "kilt and kidnapped in Spain." In a few minutes every pane of glass, nay even to the frame-work of the windows, was smashed in by the volleys of immense stones that were hurled against the building, while a desperate attempt was made by the men within to force the guard at the gate; but, owing to the strength of the latter chiefly, which was formed of strong iron bars and locked, it resisted all their efforts. To attempt to reason with the poor fellows was in vain, in consequence of the uproar and general excitement that every minute seemed to increase. In this emer-

gency I sent off a serjeant for a police force, which soon arrived with the Sheriff in person, and to whom I immediately communicated the state of affairs through the railings of the gate. Judiciously enough he withdrew his men from their proximity to the crowd, as the sight of the police only seemed to stimulate them to greater ferocity; while, by dint of signs and speaking to those nearest him, he endeavoured to stay the tumult. By this period several heads of our guard were broken, and the passions of the assailants had become worked up to that degree of phrensy that would have vent one way or the other. Several villains outside the barrack had armed themselves with large stakes, or pointed bludgeons, with which they made repeated thrusts at us through the bars of the gate, in particular inflicting a gash on the head of a little fellow named O'Brien, a volunteer, who, greatly irritated, opened the gate before I was aware of his intention, and rushed out, armed with a slight cane, making a dash at four or five of these bludgeon-men, by whom, in all probability, he would have been killed, had he not been rescued in time by the police. Luckily, when the fray was at its height, and when our position at the gate was getting too hot to be held, Mr. White, the Sheriff, by whose head large stones were passing every moment, informed me he understood the men were escaping from the back of the premises and out of the windows, and desired to know if I wished them stopped. Knowing the impossibility of succeeding in the attempt, and the probability of bloodshed, I thought it best to decline any trial of force. It was well, indeed, that the men were enabled to escape, as those conversant with an Irish mob know well the lengths they will go in the attainment of an object, especially when considering themselves ill-treated and pressed by hunger. To the wise forbearance of the Sheriff and police it is mainly to be attributed that no further harm ensued than the breaking of a few heads and windows. Although I considered it my duty to prevent the men forcing the gate, hoping to reason them into quietness, yet being the only commissioned officer present during the latter period of the fray, I was very glad that it ended no worse. I had previously despatched several messengers to inform the Colonel of what was going on, but he could not be found, until, going in pursuit of him myself, I found him, with almost all the officers, on board the Earl of Roden steamer, and was the first to communicate tidings of the escape of all the men. I then learned that the men of the two companies, who had marched from the barracks, had all broken up and dispersed themselves among the crowd. Fortunately this fracas was attended by no evil result, as nearly all the poor fellows came on board late at night or early next morning, but most of them either more or less intoxicated.

The following day we dropped down the river to the Cove of Cork, where we remained a couple of days longer for the completion of arrangements for the voyage. While lying in the Cove, an act of gallantry was performed by a servant of mine, named Tom Sullivan, who had been recommended to me by Mr. Fergus O'Connor, that deserves mention. A man jumped over the vessel's side, with the intention of deserting by swimming to the shore. As he was an excellent swimmer, and had two or three confederates on land who were waiting to receive him, there seemed every probability of his effecting his base purpose (for, with the rest of the men, he had received the bounty of 2*l.*), when Tom Sullivan sprang over the vessel, clothed as he was, and immediately gave

chase, cheered by the men on board. It was a novel and became an exhilarating sight, as each of the swimmers strove to accomplish his object—the deserter to gain the shore, and Sullivan to seize him before he could effect this. Though both men were excellent swimmers, Tom gained rapidly upon his man, until he came up with and seized him about midway between the strand and vessel. At first the man, a tall, strong fellow, showed a determination to resist; and, in a momentary grapple that ensued, both men went under, and some alarm prevailed on board that they would be drowned, but after a few seconds the marine combat ended by Sullivan making his opponent swim back to the vessel, while he victoriously brought up the rear amid the reiterated plaudits of officers and men, who crowded the deck to witness the scene.

On the 3rd of September, 1835, in the shooting-season, as we jocosely remarked at the time, we set sail for Spain. As we left, we received and returned the cheer of a great concourse of people who had collected to witness our departure from the shore, in which the wailing of women and children could be well distinguished, whom we had been obliged to leave behind. Notwithstanding all the precautions that had been had recourse to, several women and children over the limited number were found on the second day of our voyage on board. These, by some means or other, through the connivance of the men, had managed to secrete themselves until we had sailed.

We were about fourteen officers and four hundred men, which was fully as many as the vessel could conveniently find accommodation for. During the voyage, Captain Campbell, who, as I have remarked, took command of the First Division, served out the undress clothing, which made a wonderful difference in the appearance of the men, and, for the first time, I began to fancy myself among soldiers. Owing to the excellent and salutary regulations constantly put in practice with regard to cleanliness and the serving out of the rations, though freighted mostly with raw Irish recruits, the utmost decorum and regularity prevailed on board the steamer. In fact, it was easy to perceive that the master-mind of an experienced officer in Captain Campbell held them in check, and that, while he did everything in his power to ensure their comfort, he was determined to be obeyed in the regulations which he issued on the voyage. Owing, therefore, to the system he had adopted, drunkenness and fighting were of but rare occurrence. Fortunately for us the weather was extremely fine, so that in crossing the Bay of Biscay considerably less of nausea was experienced than would otherwise have been the case. However, it was pitiable, as it was, to observe the occasional sufferings of many of the poor women. The nights were extremely beautiful, which rendered the officers' turn in the watches that were kept on deck during the voyage anything but unpleasant. On such occasions, when it has been my turn of duty, with the "lady moon" rendering the evening nearly as light as day, while scarce a breath has crisped the surface of the waters that give their long heavy swell in that deep bay, it has been more than once that I have listened with a melancholy feeling of pleasure to the blended voices of men and women in some wild national chant, which they have amused themselves by singing through the greater part of the night.

But I must eschew the romantic, and at once bring my reader into the harbour of the town of St. Andero, or Santander, as it is now more

modernly spelled, where we arrived early on the morning of the 7th. We anchored about a stone's cast from the shore, which was lined with fine houses along the quay, while the harbour seemed nearly filled with English and Spanish shipping, the latter consisting chiefly of gun-brigs and *chasse-márées*. Directly on our arrival we were boarded by several officers of the 1st Regiment of Lancers of the Legion, who were quartered just outside the town, and who came to learn the news and inquire for letters. At the same time our vessel was surrounded by boats laden with eggs and fruit, and which the people in them gladly exchanged for some of our English coin. These bum-boats were chiefly plied by women, many of them girls of surpassing beauty, whose black glittering eyes, raven hair, and white teeth, added to their pretty figures and showy dresses, rendered them anything but unpleasing in their appearance to an English eye. But in matters of trade perhaps greater harpies never existed, and the men were cheated out of their money, their shillings only passing for perçettas, or the value of 10d., with jokes and laughter passing from one to the other, while they mimicked the English in the few broken words they had learned from the men of the regiments that had preceded us. In particular, the words "*I say*" seemed peculiarly to delight them; and, rather strangely, these two words were generally the first picked up by the Spaniards from us, although the frequency of their utterance by our men never struck me.

Tired with our voyage, short as it had been, we were flattering ourselves with the hope of immediately landing, when an Aide-de-camp came on board to say that we must remain in the vessel a couple of days, until the 4th Regiment, then occupying the Convent of Carbone, our future quarters, had vacated it for Bilbao, for which place it was expected they would embark on the following evening. The above convent, which was a large and extensive building, was applied solely to the purpose of a barrack, where each regiment, as it arrived, received the rudiments of drill, and then made way for another by joining the head-quarters at Bilbao. Thus the Legion became gradually tolerably well organized in the course of six months.

On the evening of the following day, one of our men experienced a most narrow escape from drowning. The tide and currents are at all times remarkably strong in the roadstead. The man in question had jumped overboard, to get on shore to spend his money, and had swam but a very few yards when he got into a counter-current that carried him away from the land. His cries, which we heard, first announced his situation to all on board; and we could see the poor fellow some hundred yards or so through the twilight, struggling, apparently at his last gasp, while the moaning gurgle of his drowning cry seemed to hold out little hope of his being rescued, although a boat had immediately been lowered to his aid. Fortunately for him, just as he was sinking, he got into a fresh current, which, with little exertion, landed him below the pier; from thence he was brought on board, having had a surfeit of the "briny billow."

The same evening we had the satisfaction of perceiving the 4th Regiment (Fusiliers) marched down to the quay for embarkation, their drums and fifes playing their favourite step, "Poor Mary Anne." A fatigue-party of eighteen of our men had previously been sent on with a subaltern to the convent, to see that the rooms were thoroughly

cleaned and prepared for the reception of our wing; a Captain T——, of our regiment, who spoke Spanish exceedingly well, and who had been much on shore, volunteering to go and show the nearest way. About nine o'clock, however, we were thrown into considerable alarm for the safety of our party of men by the arrival of Captain T—— on board, who reported to Captain Campbell that he had safely conducted the party to the convent; but they had no sooner got within the gates than a large concourse of people, chiefly composed of men, made their appearance, swearing to be revenged upon the English in the convent before the night was over, many of them drawing their knives, and saying they knew how weak the English party was in possession of the building. Captain T—— concluded by stating, having witnessed the circumstance, he had thought it his duty immediately to make his way back and report the facts to Captain Campbell. As the convent was situated on a very lonely spot four miles from the town, while its sole inmates were composed of a few sick left in charge of a subaltern of the 4th Regiment and our fatigue-men, the whole having but one musket between them, and that, I believe, unserviceable, their unprotected state naturally gave rise to apprehensions for their safety, if attacked by even a small number of *peasants* or country people. Influenced by this feeling, Captain Campbell without delay despatched Mr. D——, an Ensign of the regiment, to proceed on shore, and take a letter, acquainting the officer in command of the Lancers with the facts, and soliciting a guard, which, if not obtained immediately, Mr. D—— was to go on to the convent and learn if anything material had occurred. In about an hour and a half, to increase the interest now generally felt for our unhappy party, Mr. D—— came back "hot with haste," made his report that the country people (Carlists, it was believed, in disguise) wore a most threatening aspect, and it was the opinion of the three officers who were in the convent that the people were only waiting for a late hour to commence operations. He had waited upon the Commander of the Lancers, who conceived there was no immediate danger, but had promised to send a strong patrol in the morning very early to see that all was right. To add to the feeling this account caused amongst us, D—— told us that, just as he left the convent by a postern-gate, a shot was fired at him that passed within a few inches of his head.

Even Captain Campbell, whose coolness and caution were proverbial in the regiment, expressed his surprise at the apparent obstinacy and indifference shown by the Cavalry Officer in the emergency of the case. With regard to our own men, he was under strict orders not to allow a man to quit the vessel until disembarked together. Mr. D—— was again ordered to go to the cavalry-quarters, and, if not accompanied immediately by a guard, to push on for the convent and glean the state of affairs there. At the same time, Captain Campbell desired me privately to accompany my brother Sub. My worthy companion, who had been a midshipman, and seen some service in the Navy, on returning from the convent, urging the nature of his business, had procured a horse from a gentleman whom he met riding. This animal he had left at some stables close to the quay, but how to procure an animal for myself was a question.

However, I was fortunate in obtaining one almost immediately, through the magic of two dollars. Attoutred with our pistols, in the

invariable holsters which all Spanish saddles, whether for peace or war, carry, and our swords by our sides, the whole, together with the far greater portion of our horses, concealed by our long cloaks, we pursued our way, at past twelve o'clock, to the Lancers' barrack, which was on the road to the convent. When we stopped there, and inquired for the Colonel of Lancers, we learned from a Serjeant-Major that he had gone to his billet in town. The Adjutant then made his appearance, to whom we gave the note from Captain Campbell, who promised it should be immediately delivered; at the same time he informed us that a patrol had been warned to turn out in two hours to sweep round the neighbourhood of the convent.

- It was evident that no good was to be done by the Lancers, inasmuch as, if any attack were to take place, it would in all probability occur before they were stirring. Having thus expressed our own private feelings, although it was a dark and clouded night, we pushed on for the convent, prepared for adventure. The ground, however, as we crossed a kind of heath, became so rugged and uneven, in many places abounding as it did in gullies, formed by the wintry floods, that even our Spanish horses, sure-footed as they were, could scarcely keep their legs.

To add to the pleasantness of our situation, the rain came down in torrents; and my friend D—, owing to the darkness of the night, managed to lose the right track to the convent. As it was of no use halting, we plunged on, until I, who had wandered a little to the right, found my horse and self plunged into a river, which the animal I rode partly swam and scrambled through, surmounting a steep bank on the other side. My friend crossed where it was easily fordable. The rain suddenly ceased, and we were fortunate enough to get a gleam of moonlight that showed the white walls of a large building considerably to our right, which D— immediately recognised for the convent. We listened for a moment with anxious expectation to hear if possible the sound of conflict; but all was still as death. Bringing our left shoulders forward we pursued our way until we came to a little narrow dark ravine, beneath which the convent lay. In going through this place our horses commenced a slide, with an occasional scramble, down a stone declivity, that I expected would have ended by plunging us over some frightful precipice, when to my exceeding satisfaction they recovered the command of their legs. None but Spanish horses could have gone down such a place at night with anything like safety. About a week afterwards, I think, Major Bartin, of the Rifle Regt., fell in the day-time with his horse, an English one, in the same place, and broke his arm.

Before us, now at about a distance of sixty yards, stood the convent, a solid square-looking building of four stories, encompassed by a wall and looking grey and venerable in the broken moonlight. It had been the scene of more than one conflict with the French, and it was now with anxious hearts we galloped up to its massive wooden gate. For a minute we listened in breathless silence. Had the work of murder been already performed? was the question; and were we likely to fall into an ambuscade? The following minute our loud and reiterated knocks at the gate were to decide the question. For a few moments no reply was made, while a whisper of voices as from the other side of the gate made our hearts beat quicker. Our suspense, which had grown painful at a second knock, was however dispelled, just at its height, by a loud

challenge from within—"Who comes there?" "Officers of the 10th." "Oh, luck be wid ye! have ye brought those spalpeens of Lancers? we shall all be murdered!" was uttered by several voices, as the small portal of the gate was opened for our admission.

The whole of our fatigue-party, as soon as we entered, gathered round us with the greatest anxiety, in a plight sufficiently ludicrous to have caused a smile among the gravest observers. With faces begrimed with dirt, which, to say the truth, at least betrayed the palor often attendant upon expected conflict, the men welcomed us with much seeming joy. They all carried weapons; but such weapons as were never seen in civilized war. They consisted chiefly of sticks and poles, with long rusty nails tied at the ends. These, with garden rakes and shovels, paraded by the serjeant, himself a tall thin rushlight of a man, carrying the only musket among the party, (though, as I have previously remarked, that was unserviceable,) gave them, I must confess, a very grotesque look for a band of warriors. But still, to show the full extent of their preparations for defence, there were three or four large piles of stones collected together as missiles, in place of lead. And really I have little doubt but that this formidable garrison, if put to the push, would have stood an irregular siege for some hours.

We were instantly conducted to the quarters of our brother officer in charge, whom we found with the two officers left by the 4th Regiment in care of the sick. Here there was a warm discussion going on about the infamy of their being left lonely and unguarded, with their throats at the mercy of a pack of ferocious peasants and banditti. In particular, Lieutenant M——, the senior officer present, inveighed bitterly at the little notice that had been taken of his repeated letters and messages for a guard of Lancers.

"By heavens, gentlemen," exclaimed the gallant officer, as he stalked across the room, "I have borne His Majesty's commission (he had been a Second-Lieutenant in a Cape corps), but never have I met with such usage. I shall write once more, and, if not attended too, will certainly make known the fact at head-quarters."

Accordingly he sat down, wrote another letter—the *fifth*, I think, that had been written that night on the same business. This he despatched his junior on horseback with. In an hour he returned, followed by the long-expected party of Lancers, who patrolled for miles in the vicinity of the convent, without, I believe, finding a single individual. So here were agitation and alarm, great as I have ever witnessed; everywhere there was but too much reason for it, and all arising from what?—the assemblage, in the first instance, as I afterwards heard, of a crowd of people, who, if I mistake not, expressed their indignation in consequence of some of their horses having been ridden nearly to death and ill used by one or two of the officers of the 4th Regiment. Such, I believe, was the only origin to be traced of the general alarm that had prevailed for some ten or twelve hours.

At five in the morning I started back for Santander, went on board, and at once dissipated the fears that were entertained for our officer and men. At nine, in a heavy shower, we disembarked the men, who were formed and marched off to the scene of anticipated murder of the previous evening, where we arrived in a very uncomfortable plight, splashed up to our waists and wet to the skin.

(To be continued.)

THE DRUMSTICK CLUB; OR, SKETCHES OF NAVAL LIFE.

No. XIII.

"WELL, Mungo! and where's your master to-day?" inquired the Admiral, as the Negro entered the room alone.

"He come bum by—in littlee minute, Saar," responded the black; "he neber hab tought ob de club till me peak him good for tell him."

"Oh! aye! I remember; he dined at the Green Man yesterday with the election candidates," observed the Admiral. "I wonder he will trouble himself with such things; they're out of a sailor's line."

"What *canvass*, Admiral?" pursued Handsail; "or do you mean the dinner? Now, I think both are applicable; for after a stout bit of *canvass*, a man would be ready to *bolt* some *duck*."

The veteran curled his nose with contempt at the horrible abomination that had just offended his ears, when in came Hatchit, looking fatigued, and his eyes manifesting more than a *quantum suff.* of wine the previous night. "Glad to see you, Captain Hatchit," said the Admiral. "I hope you're well?"

"As hoarse as a boason," returned Hatchit; "feel as if I had swallowed a top-chain,—got speechifying yesterday, and had two affairs of honour to arrange this morning. I gave them a yarn or two, Admiral, and they had the presumption to doubt my word,—aye! actually doubted *my* veracity! No man of principle or honour could stand that, and so we met early on the heath; one has gone to the artillery barracks with a ball in his shoulder, and the other has carried off to London a remembrance in his hip."

"But your own arm is bandaged up," remarked Longsplice; "you seem to have got a memorandum of the affair, at all events."

"Merely a receipt in full for favours granted," drily uttered Hatchit; "only a flesh wound, and of no material consequence."

"But Mungo tells us you forgot it was club-day," said the Admiral; "this is rare absence of mind with you, Hatchit."

"Granted," returned the other; "and speaking of absence of mind recalls to my memory the fatal end of an old messmate of mine: he belonged to the Chatham division of Marines, Jolly, and was so passionately fond of the violin, that it was hardly ever out of his hands; and he made it an unerring practice to play some piece or other every night, after he had stripped ship to turn in. One morning his man went to call him, and found the instrument on the pillow neatly tucked in, and his master hanging to the violin-peg neatly tucked up. It was plain that he was so lost in contemplation that he put the fiddle to bed, and then played a *cerd* upon himself."

"It must have been on 'A flat'" remarked Handsail; "but I hope you have no more encounters remaining in support of your veracity; I am surprised that you continue so very tenacious on the subject, for all who know you must be sensible that they can *re-lie* upon your word."

"I *shall* have another encounter, Sir," vociferated Hatchit, angrily, "if you mean your last observation ironically."

"Nothing metallic I assure you," responded Handsail, laughing;

"I'll not take the *lead* in *stealing* your good name. But what did you fight with?"

"With pistols, to be sure," answered Hatchit; "I offered the Artillery-man to meet him on the Warren with six-pounders, and gave him his choice of round or grape, but he declined the field-pieces."

"You seem to have had a little of both round and grape," archly observed the Admiral. "Now, take my advice; go to your berth and compose yourself quietly upon the sofa for a few days."

"It would be of no use in the world, Admiral," answered Hatchit; "Mungo, there, can tell you that I am never more restless and impatient than when I am lying down. Is not that the case, Sirrah?"

"Pretty much for dat eberywhere, Massa," responded the grinning black; "plenny 'quall 'pose, Massa, tan up or *lying*."

"Out o' that, you walking ink-bottle!" vociferated his master. "I was once, Admiral, confined four months to my couch with a lock-jaw."

A hearty laugh followed this announcement, which, however, did not disconcert him, more than causing him to throw a glance of defiance around the party, and clench his assertion with—"Positive fact I assure you, Admiral; and during the whole time I never uttered a word of complaint."

"No one can doubt that," observed the Admiral, with a look full of meaning; "but pray how did they contrive to keep life in you? How did you hoist in your provisions?"

"Oh! easy enough," returned the Captain; "they opened a skuttle at the back of my neck, and victualled me that way with chicken-broth and boiled rice."

A roar of laughter burst from every one, to the great annoyance of the narrator, whilst Mungo, who had caught a spice of his master's propensity, uttered, "Em true for all dat, and me n'yam de fowl for make Massa fat."

"But your breath, Hatchit—how did you contrive to breathe?" inquired the Admiral; "it must have been a difficult matter with a port-hole in your neck."

"Not at all, Admiral—not at all," returned the Captain; "when my lungs wanted inflating they rigged out a windseel, and put the lower end through the skuttle; but mostly I was plugged up with a cork well parcelled with lint, and when they gave me my food they used to uncork me."

Again the laugh resounded, "Was you stowed bung up?" inquired Handsail, with apparent seriousness. "It must have been a trying thing to be unable to speak for such a length of time, eh, Mungo?"

"Ees, Saar, me Massa hold him jaw for bery long time," answered the black, with seeming commiseration.

"Ah! sad work that," uttered Handsail; "and pray how did he get his jaw unlocked at last, eh, Mungo?"

"Golamity, dat foolis question, aaxing your pardon, Saar," answered the negro. "How he get 'em unlocked? Cause him massa doctor find de key!"

The laughter was louder than ever, and the Admiral, fearing that serious offence might be taken,—though it certainly was not meant,—called the club to order, and requested Captain Longsplice to continue his narrative of

POOR NED.

"My last (said the narrator, after he had arranged his notes) left the unfortunate woman, Waxwell, just entering a large room, the tables of which were occupied by small parties of two, three, or four each. Some were playing at cards, others were rattling the dice, two were tossing with half-crowns, and most of the company were engaged in various pursuits to drown reflection and to kill time. But there were, also, several amongst them who sat absorbed in deep abstraction, with the head resting on the hand, and looking at the fantastic shapes and figures formed by the burning coal, and, perhaps, to the harassed and guilty mind shadowing forth symbols of their future destiny. There was no mirth or joy pictured on their countenances, nor could the thoughtless ribaldry or profane jest of their companions remove the dark shades of melancholy apprehension that lowered upon their brow. What was passing in their thought the Searcher of all hearts alone could tell; but, as Susan afterwards looked upon them, she could not avoid suspecting that the stains of blood were upon more than one conscience.

"The wretched woman at first shrunk back, but Gentle Billy encouraged her to advance; and, tired of the faint and hapless creature was, she longed for a few minutes' rest."

"Yo-hoicks! Gentle Billy," shouted one of the fraternity, gaily habited in a sort of jockey dress, as he sat with three others at cards in a corner by themselves. 'What sport's up now? Ha! ha! you sly old huntsman; you bag your fox for another day's run, eh?'

"That's all you knows about it, Muster Firefly Jack," returned Susan's companion; 'shut your trap, or you'll catch a badger, ould chap.' Then, turning round, so as to cover the whole of the persons present with his eye, he continued, 'Gemmen, this here's a friend's wife as has got lagged; ve all knows her husband vell, and it isn't for us to take no advantage of a brother or a sister in misfortun, seeing as we mayn't be up to the move vensomever our own turn comes. Now, though the world calls us willains,—and it must be owned we're somut of rogues to the world,—yet, let us behave like honourable men to vun another.'

"A Daniel!—a Daniel!—a second Daniel come to judgment," exclaimed another of the same card-party, in habit and appearance resembling a respectable clergyman, or a genteel member of the bar. 'What's your text, Gentle Billy, to that beautiful sermon?'

"What should it be but—'Little children love one another?' said a third, foppishly dressed, as he shuffled the pack, and cast a knowing and licentious glance at Susan, that excited a laugh from the rest, but filled her mind with disgust and indignation. She was about to speak, but her conductor, as if aware of her intention, put forth his hand and stopped her.

"Don't mind 'em, my precious," uttered Gentle Billy; 'never give any heed to 'em;' and then, turning to the table where the other speakers were sitting, he exclaimed,—'As for you, Mr. Devilskin Dick, you're not the man, I take it, to condemn without benefit of clargy, and so the sooner you leave off casting reflections, vy the more it 'ill be to your credit; and as to the insinuations of Mulberry Joe, vy they're beneath the notice of an honest man. I tell you what it is, gemmen, you all on you knows that Slippery Bob goes on the grand tower to-morrow

morning. He was a good un when among us, and didn't never shrink at danger. Vell, this is his onfortunate wife, who never knowed a vord of his being lagged till I tould her on it this arternoon. And vhat does she do? Vy, hungry, and almost barefoot, she has valked all the vay from Mile Eend to try and cotch a sight of him afore he starts—that's somut like a wife! I found her in front of the stone safe, trying to get in where many a poor devil would be glad to bolt out. Vell, in course, I offered her my sarvices; and, as Slippery Bob never vas the boy to snitch upon a comrade, but always done the thing like a genelman, I thought I was in dooty bound to bring his wife afore the community, who ought to do somut handsome by her.' Susan pulled him by the arm and looked in his face imploringly. 'Be quiet, my precious—it's all square,' continued he. 'And now, gemmon, as I've given you the whole partiklers, vy, I make bould to hope that you'll all on you fork out like Britons; but if you vont, vy then you may all go to — together.'

'Susan would have spoken, but she was again restrained by her companion, who drew her gently to a side-table, and directed the servant to bring in tea for the lady and brandy-and-water for himself.

'The individuals who had addressed Gentle Billy were evidently far superior to the others in the room, both in dress and manner: the wine sparkled in their glasses, their conversation was polite to each other, and no one living could show a more handsome exterior, set off to the best advantage, than the person who had been styled 'Devilskin Dick,' who, after consulting a few minutes with his companions, pulled out his purse, from which he took five guineas, and laid them upon the table. His example was followed by the others, and then, passing round the room each contributed something to the fund, which now amounted to a very fair sum. He then bowed with the most gentlemanly politeness to Susan, and placed the whole in the hands of her escort, saying—

'You are right, Billy—though we are deemed outcasts from society, yet I hope we shall never forget what is due to one another. You well know what to do with it.' Then turning to Susan, he added,—'I cannot but respect your feelings for your husband—it shows a noble mind. I know a little of your history; Bob has not been the most affectionate of partners, but gentlemen of our profession have but little time to cherish the softer emotions of the heart. Gentle Billy will act honourably by you, for, though he is a terrible rogue, according to the world's acceptance of the term, yet to his fraternity a more straightforward honest fellow does not exist.'

'Well done, Dick,' exclaimed the person alluded to; 'but howsoever it's like yourself. Here, my precious,' added he, addressing Susan, and offering the money, 'tie it up in a corner of your handkercher, and take care of it,' he whispered; 'do not put it in your pocket, but keep it close in your hand.'

'Susan at first hesitated to accept the money, but her state of destitution and wretchedness passed across her mind, and, though she would gladly not have come in contact with such a horrible association as the highway-men, burglars, and first-rate robbers of the day, yet the thoughts of her necessitous situation induced her to receive their gold, especially as she hoped to be able to give some portion of it to her husband on his departure.

'As soon as they had partaken of refreshment Gentle Billy and his

companion quietly and cautiously left the house, and he expressed his determination to see her safe to her lodgings, as she preferred returning home; but the rain was now pouring in torrents, and she was induced to return to the house they had quitted, where she was provided with a comfortable bed, and passed the night in unavailing regrets and tears.

"Punctual to the moment in the morning, she stationed herself amongst the multitude at the doors of Newgate, where, amidst expressions of sorrow, there seemed to be a constant endeavour to deaden every finer feeling of the mind, and to harden the heart. At length a caravan drove up—the doors were thrown open—there was a clanking of chains: a double row of policemen made a lane and drove back the populace with their staves, whilst the prisoners, heavily ironed, moved slowly to the vehicle, whilst 'farewells' to old acquaintances almost stunned the ears. Susan saw her husband, and strove to get near him, but a blow on the arm made her recoil. She called upon his name in the most frantic manner, but it was not till the wretched culprit was seated in the conveyance that he turned and recognised her. There was a wave of his hand—the caravan drove off—and Susan fell fainting into the arms of a stout countryman in a smock-frock, who stood ready to receive her, whilst the voice of Gentle Billy (for it was he in disguise) spoke words of commiseration, and after a short interval he assisted her to her home.

"From that hour till he presented himself at the house of Captain Nixon, Susan had neither seen nor heard of her husband. His time of transportation had expired, and on his return he again pursued his nefarious practices, till he found it necessary to seek shelter with his wife, who secreted him in her own apartment, and the result, gentlemen, you are acquainted with.

"Nance Baxter had continued with Robert Waxwell till his apprehension, and after he was sent out of the country she wandered about with the child, till she deserted it, as I have already related, in the streets of London; and Ned was providentially picked up by Captain Nixon, who not only rescued him from a life of infamy, but we have traced his course till he became a Midshipman in the old *Barfleur*, under Rear-Admiral Fairystone, carrying white at the mizen.

"Nor did the youth ever forget the dear little girl who had so kindly attached herself to him from the first moment they met, as on every occasion he endeavoured to testify his gratitude and regard by every demonstration within the compass of his power." Nor did Captain Nixon in any way attempt to check it; whilst her mother, devoting the whole of her attention to Eugenia, now a beautiful young woman, cared but little for Maria, so that she could promote the welfare of her eldest-born by uniting her to the thoughtless and somewhat depraved baronet, Sir Robert Metcalfe. As for the King's Counsel, he settled quietly down into the hen-pecked husband at home, whilst, with heavy debts and increasing expenses, Mr. Nixon would have long since been a ruined man but for the generous assistance of his brother.

"After six months' rather fortunate cruise in the channel the Rear-Admiral shifted his flag into the *Monarch*, and sailed with a squadron under his command to the Cape of Good Hope. Ned, who had now the gallant officer's esteem, accompanied him, and commanded one of the gun-boats at the capture of that colony, as well as served on board

his ship at the surrender of the Dutch squadron in Saldanha Bay, the whole of which subsequently afforded him a very handsome share of prize-money on his return to England.

"Ned continued to serve with honour and credit, and, whilst he enjoyed the favour and esteem of his superiors, he also experienced the respect and confidence of the men, which was strongly evidenced during the mutiny at the Nore, when he retained a considerable influence over the conduct of the ship's company, and ultimately was enabled to induce the people to run under the guns of the battery at Sheerness, where he had the satisfaction of seeing her surrender to his old commander, now created a lord, and being publicly thanked for the important service he had performed; and his lordship employed him in landing the delegates, who were afterwards surrendered as prisoners, and confined in the black-hole in Sheerness garrison.

"It was whilst engaged on this duty that the features of one of the men attracted his notice, accompanied by an unpleasant sensation which he could not account for. That he had seen the face, or one strongly resembling it, at some former period, he entertained no doubt, but where or when he could not call to recollection, nor would it have mattered much, but for the restless uneasiness of his mind whenever he looked at him. He had been a desperate character in his own ship, and was considered a heartless villain even by his confederates. In vain did Ned strive to banish this man's features from his memory—in vain he tried to persuade himself the mere occurrence of seeing him was in a great measure accidental, nor could the prisoner have any connexion with the events of his early days—the impression remained the same, nor could he get rid of it.

"That night he slept at the residence of Commissioner Hartwell, where the Admiral had taken up his temporary abode, and ordered the young Midshipman to be attached to his personal suite. Ned, uneasy and dispirited, went to bed—the countenance of the delegate haunting him like a spectre. He slept, but his sleep was disturbed and broken by visions of his earlier years, in which all the usual fantasies of a dis-tempered imagination were vividly depicted. It was whilst labouring under such disquietude that he suddenly sprang up from his pillow—the perspiration was profusely oozing out at every pore—his limbs violently trembled, and he shouted,—'I know him now—it is he—the villain who stabbed me—it is Waxwell!'

"And so it was. Though the lad calmed the perturbation of his mind as soon as sensibility was thoroughly restored, yet he could slumber no more, and at early dawn he hastened to the place where the delegates were confined, and became satisfied of the correctness of the surmise which had been suggested to him by a dream. With great caution Ned drew him into conversation, and, by touching upon certain portions of his former life, in which he introduced the family connexions of the unhappy man, as likely to interest themselves in his behalf, he at length obtained a full confession that he was indeed Robert Waxwell. With Ned's actual origin, however, he professed himself but little acquainted, though he readily gave the name and supposed residence of the Spanish nobleman at Madrid, whose grandchild Ned no doubt was, his daughter having quitted the paternal roof with a young Englishman, then on his travels. They were married in London, but at what church he did not

know. At a subsequent interview, on promise of intercession with Captain Nixon, he further revealed that the young Englishman had been trepanned in an obscure part of the metropolis, and conveyed on board a vessel bound to Cadiz, but he positively insisted that he was entirely ignorant of what had become of him afterwards.

"Ned lost no time in communicating these slender facts to his worthy patron, who came down to Sheerness, accompanied by the two women, and an interview took place in the presence of the Admiral, but nothing further of consequence was elicited to cast any new light upon the affair. Mrs. Waxwell was permitted to remain near her husband, to whom no hopes were held out, and in three weeks from that time he suffered the penalty of his crimes.

"Captain Nixon, aided by Lord K——, corresponded with the authorities at Madrid; but, as the two countries were then at open war, no other reply was returned than that such a person as the Marquis de Unquiera did exist, and he was at that moment governor of one of the transatlantic colonies. The registers of the parish churches in the metropolis were duly searched, but no clue was obtained that could lead to any satisfactory conclusion, and after considerable expense and labour they were compelled to remain in continued suspense, though still hoping that the mystery of the lad's birth would yet be solved.

"In the course of time Ned passed his examination with great credit, and received a certificate of qualification, but did not obtain his commission till about twelve months afterwards, when he was appointed to a sloop-of-war stationed in the North Sea. He passed a few days with his benefactor, during which time he enjoyed the society of his once little playmate, and had the delight to know himself beloved by her. They solemnly pledged themselves to each other, and that pledge was never broken.

"The young Lieutenant, on his arrival at Sheerness, found that the ship he was to join had sailed the day previous with despatches for Gottenburg, but that a gun-brig was about to sail the next day with a convoy for the same place, and he would have an opportunity of taking a passage in her, as the sloop was expected to remain in Wingoe Sound for some time. This he readily accepted, and very naturally made some inquiry relative to the commander of the brig; but, though everybody seemed to know Lieutenant Driver, yet no one returned any other reply to his inquiries than a laugh. Arrayed in his new uniform, Ned went on board, and, on passing over the gangway, he beheld on the starboard side of the quarter-deck, pacing or scrambling to and fro, a figure, that, but for the sacred character of the place, and for which he had ever been taught to cherish the utmost veneration, would probably have caused him to indulge in a hearty laugh.

"It was a man of some fifty or sixty years of age, whose features strongly resembled the portrait generally given of the celebrated Jeffery Dunstan. He wore a uniform coat, the tails of which were alone visible, for, though it was a warm day, the body was enveloped in a pea-jacket; he also had on short Flushing trousers, blue worsted stockings, and purser's pumps, whilst his head was covered with an old glazed hat, that appeared as if it belonged to both watches. But his gait was the most remarkable thing about him; his legs, from the crutch, expanded or bowed outwards, so as to form an arc with his thighs, and, one being

longer than the other, he bobbed up and down in his walk like a barrow with a broken wheel. Nor did he in any instance move straight forward, but sideways like a crab, alternately shifting first one side in advance and then the other.

"At the larboard gangway were two dirty-looking youngsters enjoying a sly skylark at the old man's expense, but one of them immediately crossed over to Ned, and respectfully touched his hat.

" 'Is the commander on board?' demanded Ned, whose well-instructed eye immediately detected that all discipline was set at defiance, as far as the cleanliness and ordinary duty of the vessel went.

"The Midshipman turned round, and, giving a similar salute to the old officer on the quarter-deck, said, 'Sir John, a Lieutenant wishes to speak to you.'

"Ned was quite near enough to hear what passed, and he was not a little surprised at the answer. 'D— his eyes! does he?—what can he want with me?' The young Lieutenant would, no doubt, have felt himself grossly insulted by such ungentlemanly language, but for the irresistibly comic manner in which it was uttered. The oath came out in a tone between a squeak and a grunt, and the rest of the sentence in a half-peevish half-frightened delivery, as if the man was in a state of extreme nervous irritation. The officer did not stop, but continued to shamble along the deck, crab-fashion, occasionally muttering and casting arch glances at Ned, with the shamefacedness of a school-boy. At length, stopping short by the Midshipman, he gave vent to the same expletive as before, and added, 'Go, and ask him what he wants.'

"The Midshipman touched his hat with a sly smile, and, returning to the young Lieutenant, said, 'Captain Driver wishes to know your business, Sir.'

" 'That I shall tell him myself,' returned Ned, surprised, perplexed, and amused. 'Ask your commander whether it is his pleasure to hear me?'

"Away went the youngster, winking to his messmate, as an intimation that he might expect some fun, and, once more touching his hat to the old man, he uttered, though in a lower tone than before—'He won't tell me his business, Sir John.'

" 'D— his eyes, won't he?' exclaimed the other, moving at a quicker pace, and renewing his sidelong glances at the Lieutenant; 'he won't, eh! go, Powell, and tell de serjeant to turn out de guard.'

"Off went the Midshipman full of contemplated mischief; and Ned, without further hesitation, walked towards the old officer, who, however, perceiving him coming, turned short round away, and shambled along aft, mumbling to himself 'D— his eyes! he's coming to board me.' He whipped round the binnacle on to the larboard side, and Ned after him, till he reached the centinel at the larboard gangway, when, bringing up in his rear, he shouted out 'Sentry! charge baganets.' The man promptly obeyed, and Ned actually found his farther progress opposed by the point of a bayonet within a foot of his breast.

"At this moment the Second Master approached, having been apprized of what was likely to take place by Powell, the Midshipman, and, touching his hat, exclaimed—'Sir John, I fear you are making a mistake here—this officer, I believe, is the gentleman who is going out with us to join the Scarecrow;' and, turning to Ned, 'is it not so, Sir?'

"The Lieutenant bowed assent, whilst Sir John peevishly uttered, 'The devil he is! then why didn't he say so at first?—sentry, recover arms! support arms! walk your post!' and the eccentric being again went over to the starboard side of the quarter-deck, where he resumed his shambling walk, muttering to himself, of which, however, nothing could be distinctly heard but 'D—n his eyes! he's going out with us.'

" 'I trust, Sir, you will not feel offended at the behaviour of the Commander,' said the Second Master; 'for the fact is, he is rapidly descending into second childhood; every one treats him with studied respect, but nobody minds him.' Ned recollected the bayonet, and thought differently. 'But here comes Mr. Young, the Sub-Lieutenant,' continued the Master; 'he will explain everything to you.'

"An introduction to the person mentioned took place, and the three stood conversing near the larboard gangway, without noticing that the serjeant and his party were drawn up abait, with their bayonets fixed, whilst the Commander inspected them, still muttering to himself, as he glanced hurriedly at the trio, 'Mutiny, by —;' nor were they apprized of the circumstance till they heard him shout, 'Quick march! charge baganets!' The automaton soldiers instantly obeyed the command, and were on the advance towards the officers, when the clerk, who was near the Jacob's ladder, exclaimed 'What have they done, Sir John? you mustn't charge upon them.'

" 'What!' shrieked the old man, halting; and then, uttering his usual expletive, added, 'he says I mustn't charge! Marines, to de right face, and riddle de clerks!' The order was obeyed with the greatest promptitude, and the clerk had barely time to skip up the Jacob's ladder to get out of the way, whilst the Commander shouted down the cabin sky-light, 'Steward, steward! d— his eyes, he says I mustn't charge; bring me up my six-pound-ten.'

" 'I dare say all this is very strange to you, Sir,' said the Second Master, addressing Ned; 'but to us it is a matter of almost every-day occurrence. It proceeds from a morbid trepilation arising from a too free indulgence in grog—at least so the doctor says. However, to satisfy him we will disperse; he does no one any harm, and, as long as we humour his peculiarities, we all do just what we please.'

"The Sub-Lieutenant was an old hard-a-weather Scotchman, and Powell, the Second Master (a brother of the Midshipman), was an active young man, rising from humble circumstances, who performed nearly the whole of the duty, and at the peace was Master of a ship of the line. The Assistant-Surgeon was a gentlemanly man, who submitted to the degradation of a gun-brig, because he was married and had a family.

"The next day they took charge of the convoy, and howled down the Swin with a fair wind; and no sooner was Sir John apprized that they had taken their departure from Lowestoffe, than he replied, 'Very well, my boy, I'll be at it directly;' and he was never again seen sober till informed that the Wingoe beacon was in sight, when he abandoned the grog, and kept himself tolerably steady till they again got under weigh for Anholt, where it was expected they would find the Scarecrow, which had quitted the Sound a few days before.

"It would be impossible to narrate all the consequences; and most of them were ludicrous enough, of this abominable propensity for intoxica-

tion in the Commander. Sir John had been promoted to the quarter-deck from before the mast, for several acts of intrepid gallantry in severe and arduous encounters with the enemy, and subsequently obtained a commission and the command of a schooner, which he fought till she went down under him; whilst the vessel he had engaged, far superior to himself in men and metal, was so much injured, that she could not make her escape, and became an easy prey to a cutter that came up after the action was over. He next obtained his present command; but his attachment to drink was rapidly destroying his faculties and undermining his health.

"One point with the unfortunate imbecile was at all times to insist upon being addressed as 'Sir John,' or as 'Captain Driver;' but the former was decidedly his favourite term. The whim of the title arose from his having anchored off the Dutch coast abreast of a fortified town, and hoisted a flag of truce. A boat came alongside, and the Commander sent a very polite message ashore, requesting a supply of fresh provisions and vegetables. The governor of the fort returned an answer, that 'he could not comply with his request without the sanction of higher authority,' which he had immediately despatched a messenger to obtain.' Thus affairs stood till the following morning, when the boat again came alongside with a plentiful cargo of fresh beef and vegetables, some fowls and fruit for the 'Captain.' She also brought a letter, which, through some cause or other, was addressed to 'Sir John Driver;' and the wags of the brig persuaded him that the Dutch Government had knighted him for the confidence he had reposed in them, but, on account of his being in the service of a nation at war with them, they did not feel disposed to make any other demonstration.

"Poor Sir John hoisted it all in, and was ever afterwards extremely tenacious of his title, by which he was known throughout the station. The Admiral had ordered him to buy a regulation-sword, which, from the price paid for it, he was accustomed to call his six-pound-ten; and, when the men mustered at quarters every evening, he used to draw his six-pound-ten, and march past them. Sometimes, when exercising great guns and small arms, he would call, 'Bpaders, away!' and, flourishing his six-pound-ten, take the lead, and run fore and aft, with the men after him enjoying the sport.

"Sir John was also extremely desirous of being thought an adept in nautical astronomy, and many were the tricks that were played upon him. He had seen in the Nautical Almanac that there was to be a conjunction of Jupiter and Venus, and he left strict orders that he should be called to witness it. About four bells in the first watch, just as Sir John had got into his first snoose, down went Powell, and, shaking his cot, shouted, 'Bear a hand, Sir John. Jupiter's a-top of Venus. The conjunction has taken place.'

"'Very well, my boy; I'll be at it directly,' answered the Commander, arousing himself, and calling the Steward, who, however, did not answer for some time. The night was as thick as grave-mould—not a vestige of a star to be seen—but still the Captain persevered in rigging himself, though twenty minutes elapsed before he was completely ready, when Powell again descended.

"'It's of no use now, Sir John,' said he, entering the cabin. 'You are too late. Jupiter has just jumped off.'

"D—n his eyes! has he? why didn't he stop till I came up?" exclaimed the Commander. "Well, then, my boy, I'll turn in again."

"Another night, whilst lying at single anchor off Anholt, the officers were making merry upon deck, and the noise aroused Sir John, who instantly came up, and demanded 'what was the matter?'"

"Nothing, Sir John, but a couple of gun-boats," answered Powell. "There they are, broad away upon the bow," pointing at the ship's buoy. Driver looked, and, being rather double-sighted, fully believed that he was about to be attacked. The drum beat to quarters, the guns were cast loose, and for ten minutes a tremendous fire was poured in upon the supposed enemy, till Mr. Young reported that both gun-boats were sunk; and, as the buoy was no longer visible (Powell having given the ship a sheer a-head off her anchor), Sir John went below, perfectly satisfied that he had destroyed the enemy.

"At Anholt the young Lieutenant joined his ship, and remained in her about six months; but, not liking the station, he availed himself of the kindness of Lord K—, and got removed into a two-and-thirty gun frigate under his lordship's orders in the Mediterranean, where they cruised for some time along the Spanish coast, and were so extremely successful in taking prizes, that Captain Bennett received permission to see them safe to England.

"The morning subsequent to their quitting the Gut, a large ship hove in sight, and chase was immediately made. The stranger was soon ascertained to be an enemy, who made from them, and every nerve was strained in pursuit, which did not last long, for the enemy was a dull sailer; and, the British frigate having got within gunshot, the stranger took in his canvas, hoisted Spanish colours, and prepared for action. She was a heavier ship than the British frigate, but our bold tars made every broadside tell; and, though the Spaniards fought gallantly, yet an hour decided the business, and the St. George's ensign was hoisted over the Spanish flag. She proved to be a frigate mounting forty-two guns, nearly four months on her passage from Monte Video, and bringing home a freight of treasure, and the late Governor of that place, the Marquis de Unquiera.

"No sooner did the name reach Ned than he at once felt convinced that the ex-Governor was his grandfather, and he lost no time in communicating the intelligence to his Captain, who had already been in some measure apprized of his history. He immediately obtained permission to go on board the Spaniard, and, without announcing himself, to offer the Marquis the best accommodation that the British ship could afford, or the option to remain in the prize till they reached England.

"I scarce need attempt a description of Poor Ned's feelings when he first presented himself before a fine, tall, venerable man, who was introduced to him as the Marquis, and who started back the moment he beheld the young officer advance, and seemed shaken with sudden agitation as he gazed upon his features, which Ned attributed to some resemblance he might bear to his deceased mother. Nor was he mistaken as to the likeness, but it was to his father, and not his mother. The Lieutenant delivered his message, and the Marquis requested an interview with Captain Bennett on board either of the vessels. To this the Captain gave his assent, and, desirous of testifying his respect to the ex-Governor, accompanied Ned to the Spanish frigate, where they had a long conversation together, and the Marquis decided upon going to England in

the Spaniard. Some slight allusions were made to the young Lieutenant, but nothing material was elicited. They joined the rest of the vessel, and proceeded homeward.

"On their arrival, the Marquis went up to London on parole, where Ned, having obtained leave for the purpose, promptly followed him, and communicated the important event to Captain Nixon, who lost no time in arranging steps for proving the consanguinity, and endeavouring to ascertain the fate of the young man's father, who had, by Maxwell's account, been trepanned on board a vessel bound for Cadiz. The professional men seemed well aware of the difficulties they would have to encounter, and Mr. Nixon, K.C., now that Ned was no longer a poor dependant (for his prize-money was a good fortune of itself), strenuously lent his best attention to the subject. If they alarmed the fears of the Marquis, it was probable he would remain silent, should the father of Ned have been assassinated or otherwise destroyed, and evidence there was none to show even that he had been carried away.

"Under these circumstances, as a last, indeed, only resource, old Nan was called into play, and, pretending that she had seen the Marquis, took the liberty of calling on him. The Spanish noble at once recognised her, and, to her surprise, eagerly inquired after the child; but Nan was too wary to give him immediate information so as to satisfy his mind: she played with his impatience, so as to render him more desirous of information, and performed her part so well that he admitted the relationship, but, with great mental anguish, doubted the legitimacy of the young man's birth. In vain the woman urged upon him that he knew of the marriage of the parents at one of the churches of the metropolis; he solemnly and strenuously denied all knowledge of such a transaction, and declared that, if it could be fully proved that they had been lawfully united, he would at once own the offspring of his daughter, though now he had but little to bestow upon him.

"Inquiry was next made as to what had become of the father, but upon that subject he was silent; and, though he was told of Maxwell's death-bed confession, yet he remained sullenly obstinate, neither denying nor admitting the fact; and in this state, without affording him any satisfaction, the woman left him, but leaving directions where she was to be found. Nor did she have to wait long for a summons, as on the following day the Marquis sent for her, and she found him labouring under great excitement and distress of mind. He earnestly urged her to reveal what she knew relative to the fate of the child, but Nan remained inflexible, unless he gave a written document acknowledging his legitimacy. His next entreaty was to visit the grave of his daughter; and, after some resistance, the request was granted, and the next morning appointed for the pilgrimage to the tomb.

"Almost the first use Ned had made of his own money was to erect a neat marble monument over his mother's remains, and he never visited the metropolis without passing some time at this memorial of her decease and burial. It was, perhaps, a childish feeling, but he used to say that those were amongst the happiest moments of his life, though they were generally passed in tears. He would sit and fancy the gentle and lovely being, such as she had been described by those who knew her, present before him, and his heart, warmed by the tenderest emotions, would commune with the spirit of the departed. That solitary grave in the corner of the churchyard was the only link that bound him to his kin-

dread—no weed was allowed to root itself near the spot—the long grass grew in its luxuriance of human mould, and now and then a lonely flower would peep forth to perish where it grew.

“ I know not what it is, gentlemen—it may be ‘ the divinity that stirs within us,’—but there is always an inexpressible sensation in my breast whenever I behold the humble testimonial which the living erect to the memory of the dead, particularly if it is in some lone romantic spot that solitude might claim as her own. I remember, some twenty years since, going up Garden Reach to Calcutta, and upon the banks of the river, beneath the green foilage, stood a small white monumental pile that excited reflections which have never decayed from that hour to this. It was an emblem of sorrow amidst the profusion of beauty and gladness—it was like a single tear of grief flowing down the lovely and sunny face of nature. I shall never forget that tomb.”

“ But to my tale. The Marquis, attended by the woman, traversed many a turf-raised mound till he stood before the marble memorial of his deceased child, and beheld the young Lieutenant stooping down to remove some impurity that the rains had dashed upon the faint tablet. The latter did not at the moment perceive their approach, though he was well aware that they intended coming, and had purposely gone to the spot. The old man uttered an exclamation of agitated surprise—Ned turned quickly round—his countenance was instantly recognised—and, with a heavy groan, the Marquis fell prostrate to the earth before his daughter’s tomb.

“ Ten minutes elapsed before recollection was entirely restored, and then he found himself supported by his grandson, and he wept like a child. Oh! those were moments of agony, when the heart of poor Ned fluttered between hope and dread—now gratified by the caresses that were lavished on him—then sickening at the repulsive behaviour of his newly-discovered relative. Nature, however, triumphed: the struggle was long and arduous in the old man’s breast—it seemed as if the spirit of his child was pleading against his stern resolves, and urging him to clemency in favour of her offspring, who had never known a living mother’s care; indeed, it was hardly possible to refrain from believing that he actually beheld the vision of his daughter, so powerful at times was his harangue, and then sinking into plaintive softness, whilst his eyes were fixed as if addressing a real corporeal substance.

“ But nature was victorious: the old man bowed his head, and, whilst bitter sobs shook his aged frame, he acknowledged the relationship, and swore upon the grave of the departed mother to do his duty by her hitherto-neglected child. He pressed the young Lieutenant in his arms, kissed him on the forehead, gazed at him with a look of pride—and, after offering up a prayer for the repose of the deceased, they quitted the spot together.

“ As had been previously arranged, Mr. Nixon, K.C., attended them when they returned, and documents were prepared establishing the young man’s paternity. But the Marquis persisted in denying all knowledge of the father’s origin, though he was aware that he had been born in India, and that his name was Metcalfe. He knew nothing of any marriage having taken place, though he admitted that he had been assured every legal ceremony had been religiously adhered to; and Ned saw a bright prospect opening before him of being restored to

his proper station in society, though it could not surpass the honest fame he had created for himself.

"Every document was ready for signing; but Mr. Nixon thought that a little delay would not be of any very material consequence, and in that time they could search every register so as to endeavour to ascertain where the marriage had taken place, and thus make assurance doubly sure. At all events, the Marquis objected to put his immediate signature to the deeds, as it would appear more the effect of sudden impulse than sound judgment. Ned left him in the evening, after receiving his blessing; and the next morning the Marquis was found lifeless in his bed. His death, as far as appearances went, had been tranquil—his body was stiff and cold.

"It would be useless and unnecessary to attempt a description of the young man's distress at this wholly unexpected turn which affairs had taken. The night previous a consultation had been held at Captain Nixon's, and the barrister had thrown out conjectures that *the* Mr. Metcalfe who had wedded the Marquis's daughter, and was the father of Ned, was also, in all probability, the son of the late Sir William Metcalfe, of Calcutta; and he strongly urged a rigid search into every fact bearing upon the case. How great, then, was the disappointment of the young man—how bitter must have been his regret and sorrow—when he found that his prospects were crushed and annihilated at the very moment they began to brighten.

"As soon as the obsequies were performed Ned rejoined his ship, whilst a fresh inquiry was prosecuted with vigour, but to no effectual issue. There was strong corroborative testimony relative to the identity of the father, which amounted almost to a certainty that he was the missing son of the Calcutta baronet, and but little doubt was entertained that the parties had been lawfully married, but the proofs requisite to carry it successfully through the courts of law were wanting, and, consequently, Sir Robert still retained possession.

"Poor Ned continued his career, and fought his way to post rank, without changing the name which had been assumed, or rather manufactured, for him by his benefactor and old Will, the steward. He was united to Maria Nixon, and enjoyed, nay, still enjoys, uninterrupted happiness with her. At the peace they went to Spain, but could gain no tidings of the fate of Mr. Metcalfe, that country being in a state approaching to anarchy, from the long war that had desolated it.

"Thus, gentlemen, has this unfortunate officer been tantalized, but, happily, he does not suffer it to prey upon his mind; and, being possessed of an ample fortune, enjoys life with the best. His wife would like, of all things, to have the title of Marchioness, though only a Spanish one, whilst he would prefer the English baronetage to all the foreign distinctions that could be showered upon him: but both are lost through the want of a marriage certificate.

"Yet the jovial Captain frequently contrasts his present exalted condition with what it might have been but for the kind dispensation of Providence which threw him in the way of Captain Nixon. He has, as I before said, ample wealth to indulge his generosity, an excellent wife, a delightful home, a quiet conscience, and the respect of many dear and valued friends. Gentlemen—I AM POOR NED.

ANECDOTES OF SIR SIDNEY SMITH.*

THE following is a laughable adventure that Sir Sidney Smith met with while in the service of Sweden, in which he continued until the peace of Reichenbach, and was invested by King Gustavus with the Grand Cross of the Order of the Sword, on account of his judicious advice and assistance in important political questions, and his distinguished bravery in several encounters with the fleet of the Empress Catherine; and the reader shall have it in his own words as near as I can remember them:—

"The part of the coast that we were upon, at the time what I am going to tell you about happened, was well wooded and marshy, and the enemy had thrown up some masked batteries within close range of us, but, as they never seemed likely to do any good with them (and I gave the fellows fair chances enough), I determined to land and spike their guns, and drive them away somewhere else; and this I did without much trouble by falling upon them suddenly with two or three boat-loads of blue-jackets. As the rascals, however, were scampering off they fell in with a strong detachment of their party on the march; and, thus reinforced, returned in double-quick time, and without our seeing them until they were close upon us, to recover their guns, most of which were old useless pieces that had been taken from the Turks, and were at least a century old.

"There was nothing now for us to do, as we had spiked the guns, but to 'cut and run' from their overwhelming numbers, and they began to pepper away at us most unmercifully. It was a good joke, nevertheless, and so my chaps seemed to think it, for, strange to say, after the rush was over, the soldiers never attempted to overtake us, but contented themselves with popping at us from behind the trees; and Jack, seeing this, followed their example, and also played at 'bo peep,' and, taunting them with cowardice, flourished his cutlass, and every now and then fired his pistol at them in defiance. The scene was, however, soon changed, by a superior officer riding up at full gallop, and ordering a party round to cut off our retreat to the boats. I was afraid my men would not perceive this, and it was impossible for me to give them any warning of their danger; for, unluckily, at the outset I had taken it into my head to trip up a Russian officer, and, when I was obliged to run away, on some fierce green-coated gentlemen coming to his rescue, the enemy had got betwixt me and my men, and I had no other means of escaping their clutches but by climbing up into a tree, which I did as nimbly as I could, and, perching myself on one of the boughs, had the satisfaction of seeing that my lads had been 'wide awake to the move,' and were pulling foot and cracking on to their boats, with loud shouts of laughter, and in all the glee imaginable; and they reached their boats and shoved off just as the Russians arrived at the spot and expected to catch them. But Jack was more up to trap than I thought for; and, although I could not see the water from where I was, yet I knew very well they were safe by their cheering."

* Concluded from page 95, No. 114.

"But I'm surprised, Sir," said I, "at their leaving you in the lurch; it was so unlike—"

"Ah! have patience a moment," replied the Admiral, interrupting me. "I too wondered at their not making a stand, and so I afterwards learned they certainly would have done, but that they found my gig was already gone, and therefore concluded I had seized some favourable moment, and was making a dash in another ungarded quarter, by way of drawing off the attention of the troops while they were getting into their boats. So they shoved off, as I said before, and laid on their oars, while one of my officers pulled round a point of land to look after me. But I was not so nobly occupied as they did me the honour to suppose. By the bye, now I think of it," said Sir Sidney, bending over from the sofa, and pointing with his finger towards me, "*all* the boats pulled round the point, and to this it was owing that I was not made prisoner; for the soldiers, thinking, perhaps, that they were going to land again, and not knowing exactly what to make of it, were marched off in the direction they were taking, and I lost no time in dropping from the tree, and hastening as fast as I could to the place where we landed, not supposing, of course, that the boats would go away without me, any more than I could conceive at the time why the troops had started off in such a hurry. But now I'm coming to the point—the best of the joke"—said the kind and cheerful old Admiral, smiling, and seeming as much amused at the recollection of it as he no doubt was at the time it occurred.

"I had lost my way," he continued, "and, moreover, found myself suddenly *brought up all standing* by an extensive swamp. In this dilemma, as I stood gazing about me undecided for the moment how to act, I spied a great Russian ignorant boor of a soldier at a little distance from me, preparing to wade across; and, innocently enough—I don't know even now what could have possessed me to do such a thing—I sung out in a commanding tone—I could speak sufficient for that—'Here, you Sir, carry me over, there's a good fellow.' No sooner said than done. The giant—he really was an enormous chap—came up to me, and, stooping quietly down, told me to get on his back, which I did instanter, and away he marched with me. 'Are you one of the fine fellows' (I called ourselves the enemy) 'who gave the enemy such a warming just now?' 'Yes,' answered he; and added carelessly, 'Our Colonel was in hopes of taking the English commander—they say he is the cause of more mischief to us than all the Swedes put together.'

"This was capital," added Sir Sidney, "shouldn't you have thought so?"

"And what do you think about it yourself?" I asked him. "I don't think about it all—I don't care whether he is or not," was the dogged answer. "But how is it, my lad, you are not with your comrades?" "I was ordered to fetch some water for an officer that was cut down by an Englishman!" I thought I should have died laughing. I did give the man a tap on the head, I believe. "And did you not take the water to him?" I demanded. "No; he was gone with the rest before I got back." "And you were in no hurry to follow?" I said, as we reached the other side of the swamp, and he again stooped down for me to dismount. "In no hurry whatever, *friend*," he answered drily. I gave him a small coin that I had in my pocket, and which he put

into his pouch without moving a muscle of his countenance, and with the same indifference he had manifested from the beginning; he then very leisurely walked off to join his companions, and I made the best of my way to the beach, which I fortunately reached at the moment my gig was pulling past in search of me. The Russian boor—this I was told by the officer who rode down, when we chanced to meet a long time afterwards at Stockholm, where he was as an *attaché* to the embassy—the Russian boor, on mentioning the trifle I had given him, and the service he had rendered for it, was so laughed at by his comrades, that, the story coming to the ear of his chief, he sent for him and questioned him, and was at once convinced that the great simple creature must have carried the *Admiral himself*, as the officer expressed himself in relating the incident to me. ‘And why the deuce,’ inquired his commander, ‘didn’t you take him prisoner, and bring him along with you?’ ‘I never thought at all about it,’ said the man, scratching his big rough head.

“And there was a pair of us, I do assure you,” said Sir Sidney, laughing, “for upon my soul I never thought of it either; and nothing could have been easier, for he would have made half a dozen such men as I am, and was besides armed to the teeth, whereas I had no weapon whatever, having forgotten my sword, which I dropped on descending from the tree.”

One day that the Admiral took me with him in his carriage to see a variety of beautiful models of contrivances which he has invented, of great ingenuity, but extreme simplicity, for saving the lives of persons and property from shipwreck—and which I shall again have occasion to advert to—he was speaking on the subject of Admiralty patronage and promotion, when, after a few serious observations, he said cheerfully, “It was very different in my young days; and this reminds me of a little circumstance that will enable you to judge of the way in which these important matters were sometimes conducted. While I was in Rodney’s ship, off Gibraltar, there was a vacancy for a Lieutenant; and, as I and another messmate had an equal right to it, he made us toss-up for it on the quarter-deck. ‘First time, or best two out of three?’ said I, holding a halfpenny on the tip of my forefinger and thumb. ‘Once for all,’ was the answer. ‘Here goes then—heads or tails?’ cried I, whisking it up in the air. I forget which my brother-aspirant for promotion called for, but the coin rolled underneath one of the carronade slides, and I picked it up and brought it to him just as I found it. Rodney peered good-naturedly over my shoulder to see whether it was ‘heads or tails.’ I don’t remember which it was now, but I know that I lost my Lieutenantcy. However, the kind old fellow consoled me by promising that I should have the next without tossing for it; and accompanied his declaration with such a hearty slap on the back, that, but for the combings of the hatchway, I must have pitched head foremost down the companion-ladder.”

“Never consult them or ask their advice,” said Sir Sidney, on our way back, when speaking to me of the Turks; “save them the trouble of thinking; and they’ll be very much obliged to you, and smoke their pipes with perfect satisfaction, whilst you manage their affairs for them in your own way.”

The following Sir Sidney related to me on his return from Court on

the Patron Saint's Day of Louis Philippe, who upon that occasion said, "Why, my dear Admiral, you look as young and healthy as you were ten years ago, at least; it gives me pleasure to see you appearing so well." Sir Sidney replied, that he had not time to grow old.

"The King of Prussia, when he was Prince Royal, was fond of residing in a pleasant house, a snug little palace near Potsdam, where there was good shooting and hunting; and when he came to the throne he still continued in it, as he could there lead a comparatively retired life, much in the same manner as the King at Windsor. It was at this place that I procured an interview with the King of Prussia, during the war between Gustavus and Catherine, and when no public embassy would have been received at the Court of Prussia from that of Sweden. It was a matter of exceeding great doubt whether I should succeed, and I was by no means sanguine myself as to a favourable result; but, 'at all events,' I said to the King, 'I can but try.' Now it has always," observed Sir Sidney, "been a maxim with me upon undertaking anything that might be attended with great difficulties, but was, nevertheless, not altogether impracticable, when I perceived that I could achieve the first step towards its accomplishment, never to allow myself to be deterred from attempting it, and not hesitate and fear to proceed because I could not see how I should gain my next point,—that's number two—we must not confound them. When you have got hold of number one," he said, impressively, "you are in a fair way of securing number two. The way was open to me to Potsdam."

"That was number one, then," I said, laughingly.

"To be sure it was," he rejoined, with a raise of his eye-brows, "and the next followed as a matter of course. I knew very well that if I demanded an audience formally I should not obtain it; so, as there was to be a review the day following, I determined to be present at it, and, on my arrival, stationed myself near the spot where the King sat on horseback surrounded by his Staff, and stood carelessly looking on, as though I had come there for no other purpose. This little *ruse* of mine had just the effect I anticipated, for the King, seeing so young an officer (I was dressed in my naval uniform, wearing, amongst other decorations, that of Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Swedish Order of the Sword), was curious to know who I was, and despatched an Aide-de-camp to me, who rode up and said that his Majesty wished to speak with me. This was precisely what I wanted. I immediately went to him, and, mentioning my name, was very graciously received. After a little desultory conversation, and when I found that I had gained his good graces by a few well-timed remarks on the fine appearance and brilliant manœuvring of his troops, and all that sort of thing, I took an opportunity, when he alone could hear me, to say that I was charged with a letter and other communications from Gustavus Adolphus, and hoped he would grant me a private audience to deliver them. Ah! indeed! were his exclamations of surprise—for you see I took him all aback—'a cunning diplomatist, Monsieur, and good tactician. I had no idea of this.' I didn't want him to have," observed Sir Sidney. "'Well,' continued old Frederick, in a low voice, 'I suppose I must not refuse you; but be on your guard, Sir; when I return to the Palace, follow me up stairs, and hold no discourse with any one.' This was said with a smile, and some hesitation. I obeyed orders, of course;

and, mixing with the retinue, bowed as I passed to those around me, and ascended the staircase, taking care to keep close to the King's heels until we arrived in the gallery, where, as he dispensed with etiquette, we were left alone, and he took me into his closet without further ceremony. The main object of my mission was to endeavour to persuade him to permit the exportation of corn into Sweden, and to assist that country *sub rosa* in her war with Russia; while, at the same time, he should give ostensible proofs of the apparent sincerity of his alliance with Catherine, and take care not to awaken suspicion. And this important negotiation, by adroit management, I pretty well effected, and became, besides, a great favourite with his Majesty. Our Ambassador used to get me to pull an oar and work to windward for him upon a good many occasions; he used to say that I had more influence with the King than he had, and how I contrived it he was at a loss to discover, but that it was very clear I had the secret of gaining his Majesty's ear when he could not; and he was surprised that I should have been admitted at all to the King's presence, considering the relations which subsisted at the time betwixt Prussia and Russia, and that I was serving in the Swedish Navy."

Never, perhaps, did the gaoler of a State prison place such full and entire confidence in any prisoner committed to his care as did the gaoler of the Temple in the gallant Sir Sidney, whom he regarded, and justly so, as the very type of chivalry and honour itself. The grace, good humour, urbanity, and generosity—the eminent worth and greatness of soul of his amiable and heroic captive, completely won his admiration and esteem; and so firm and unshaken was his reliance on the bare word of his noble prisoner that he even permitted him to make excursions in the environs of Paris; and on some of these occasional rambles together the honest gaoler, who was of a merry and jovial temper, would drink so many *grands coups de vin* that Sir Sidney was obliged in his turn to take charge of him, and conduct him back to the Temple, into which, more than once or twice, he was actually for a considerable time refused admission by the guard on duty.

Sir Sidney would most assuredly have been shot or guillotined, or shared the fate of poor Wright, but for the interference of Admiral Trouget, who was then Minister of Marine, and who is still living; and, by one of those singular coincidences in life which sometimes happen, resides at this very time under the same roof with Sir Sidney, occupying the second *étage*. I had the honour to be introduced to him one day that I was with Sir Sidney, when he stepped in for a few minutes in full dress as he was going to Court, while his friend was employed in the business of the toilet for the same purpose.

But to return to the subject of this paper, which the interview I have mentioned brought to mind, and was, consequently, related to me, though not at the time. The room allotted to Sir Sidney in the Temple was the same which the unfortunate King Louis XVI. occupied in the interval of his being dragged by the revolutionary tigers from his palace to the scaffold. It was an uncomfortable and dreary apartment, with that intolerable nuisance a smoky chimney; and the gaoler, in recurring to the abominable treatment which the poor King suffered from his ruffianly persecutors, would point to the spot where he lay with his mattress on the floor to escape in some degree from the clouds of smoke

which filled the room ; and in this humiliating condition—this “ low estate,” indeed—his Queen, alas ! and the Princess Elizabeth, knelt by his side, and sometimes sat repairing his clothes and linen.

Sir Sidney, more privileged than that unhappy monarch, used to go and sit by the gaoler’s fire whenever the wind was so high as to render it utterly impossible to light one in his own room. One day as he sat, as usual, with this prince of gaolers, of whose ready disposition to serve him to the utmost of his ability he was so well assured, he abruptly asked him if he could get a letter, which he was about to write, transmitted to Napoleon. “ *Quoi ! sérieusement ?* ” “ *Oui, sérieusement,* ” replied Sir Sidney. “ *Mais il est nécessaire de savoir vos desseins : quels sont-ils donc ?* ” Sir Sidney told him. “ *Fort bien, comptez sur mon zèle. Parbleu ! I will deliver it myself.* ” Voilà, Monsieur, tout ce que je puis vous dire.”

“ *C’est prendre trop de soin,* ” said Sir Sidney, fearing the good fellow might compromise himself, and perhaps lose his situation by doing so. “ *Pas de tout,* ” answered he ; “ *je suis résolu ; I will place it in his own hands ; j’en répond sur ma vie.* ” Sir Sidney, therefore, wrote the letter, which contained a respectful but spirited and energetic remonstrance against the arbitrary and severe measures that had been resorted to in his particular case, and requested, not as a favour, but as matter of right, that he might thenceforth be treated in the same manner, and be allowed the same privileges, in every respect, as the other prisoners of war ; and concluded by requesting of the First Consul—such was Napoleon at the time—the favour of an early, and, he trusted, a satisfactory answer. Furnished with his credentials, off trudged the old gaoler to the house of Napoleon, resolved in his own mind to add all the weight he could to the request which the letter contained, by speaking boldly in favour of his prisoner. But Napoleon, who was vexed to the soul at the recent destruction of his fleet, and arsenals, and magazines, &c., in Toulon, which had been effected by the skill and undaunted courage of the brave officer now in his power, and which was followed by the extrication of the allied Army ; and equally annoyed at the remembrance of other events which had caused him much chagrin and mortification, and how often the flag of the republic had been humbled by him, entertained a bitter animosity towards Sir Sidney ; and the great man, par excellence, as is well known, took no care to conceal it, but, on the contrary, availed himself of such an opportunity as the present to evince the low, petty, malignant spirit which actuated him to offer insult when it could not be resented. His conduct, however, upon this occasion only served to expose his real littleness of soul, whatever might be his greatness of genius ; for it was genius more than talent that Napoleon Buonaparte was gifted with—a distinction by no means to be lost sight of, in estimating his character ;—the one is Nature’s gift alone, for which we can take no credit whatever ; the other merely the seed which God has planted in us, and requires the most sedulous care, and attention, and unremitting toil, and cultivation of the husbandman, to bring forth fruits to perfection. When the gaoler returned from his voluntary embassy to the chief magistrate, and entered the room where Sir Sidney sat, he threw himself moodily into a chair on the opposite side of the fire-place, and began poking the fire with a thoughtful and gloomy countenance, and in profound silence,

appearing in great trouble and perplexity all the time he was thus seriously engaged in a service which was not required of him, namely, that of raking the fire out, which he certainly would not have failed to do—for he was working away with the most persevering industry—had not Sir Sidney put a stop to his ill-timed zeal, by asking him to “report progress.” But although he ceased, on being interrogated, to poke out the fire, he still continued to fix his meditative gaze upon it; and any one, to look at him, would have thought he was thinking of nought else but the better arrangement of the coals; nevertheless, nothing would have been further from the truth than such an inference. The good man was, in fact, ruminating on the unaccountable perverseness of his master's temper, and the spiteful effusion of malignity and wrath which Napoleon had indulged in towards him and his prisoner, who sat there with a serene, unruffled, good-natured face, smiling at his embarrassment, and endeavouring to get him to break the silence which he had hitherto maintained, with the exception of uttering a single “*sacré*,” which he seemed to repent of as soon as his feelings found a vent for it, for it was instantly followed by a close compression of the lips, as though he were determined to speak no more.

At length, after sundry strange noises, proceeding from the region of the belly, or that part of the road leading to it where travellers on their passage down are apt to take the wrong way, and a pish, or a bah, and a toss of the head, he thrust his hands into his pockets, and, stretching out his legs to their full length, looked Sir Sidney in the face, for the first time since he came in, and was evidently on the point of replying to his question, when his courage failed him, and he drew up his legs again, placed one over the other, and, turning away his head, said, “*J'enrage lorsque j'entends tenir ces sorts de langage.*” “What reception did he give you? Have you seen the Consul?” “I have,” replied the old fellow; “and his discourse has made my head ache. *Son discours m'a mis l'esprit en feu.*” “Well! never mind; let's hear all about it,” rejoined Sir Sidney. “*Son discours m'a mis l'esprit en feu.*” “Phshaw! don't repeat—don't repeat; you've said that before. What did he say about me?” “He said you might stay here till you rotted,” replied the old chap, passing his hand over his face to conceal his emotion, and clenching the other in honest indignation at the unmanly affront his respected prisoner had received. “And was he angry with you? What did he say to you?” demanded Sir Sidney. “Why, he told me not to shove my nose where I had no business. *Ne mettez votre nez où vous n'avez que faire.*” In short, the old gaoler met Buona-parte on the staircase, and delivered Sir Sidney's letter, as he had declared he would do, into his own hands, which Napoleon perused on the spot, and flew into a passion with the gaoler for bringing it. His rude and insolent reply, which was not confined to the words used by the gaoler, had no other effect at the time than to cause him to be heartily despised and censured for it by many of his personal friends and adherents, Junot especially; and Sir Sidney, of course, took no further notice of him or his message, until an opportunity afterwards presented itself, when no longer a prisoner, but a triumphant conqueror. Face to face with his haughty foe at the siege of St. Jean d'Acre, opposing his further advance in Egypt, mowing down his columns and battalions that mounted the breach in quick succession to seize upon this golden key

to the treasures of the east, and completely upsetting all his plans and projects for the conquest of India, the hero of Acre, exulting with honest pride at the success of his arms, and at having shown Napoleon that he had found his match for once, was also resolved to square yards with him for his former behaviour; and after a most signal defeat, and when he must have seen that he would be compelled to raise the siege, and was deeply mortified, peevish, and out of temper with himself and every one else, a letter was conveyed to him by one of his own soldiers, who had been taken prisoner, and was set at liberty for the purpose, from his old correspondent and victorious enemy, Sir Sidney Smith—written in a style of exquisite good-humoured irony, perfectly free from recrimination, but well calculated, as was the message which accompanied it, to humble him, and render him ridiculous to all around him. And he was heartily laughed at by his friends; some of whom—Junot among the number, as I have said before—were highly indignant at his conduct upon the occasion recorded above, and told him that Sir Sidney had taken an admirable method of being revenged, which they could not but foresee would be attended with fatal consequences to their expedition: and so it turned out, for his failure at Acre was followed by a train of disasters—the abandonment of his enterprise, and finally, his expulsion from Egypt.

EXTRAORDINARY SECT OF FANATICS IN INDIA.

EVER since I have been in India I have heard of a class of Mussulmans, the disciples of a sect or saint, by name Shaikh Ruffai, who, in order to impress the unbelievers with the truth of the Mussulman faith, imparted to his followers the power of plunging swords and daggers into their body, cutting off their tongue, frying it, and putting it together again, cutting off the head and limbs, scooping out the eye, and in truth doing with their bodies whatsoever it pleased them to do; all of which Colonel G——, in company with a clergyman, a Mr. R——, had seen, when the latter grew sick and ran out of the place, declaring it was the power of Satan, which to this day he believes, and the Colonel that it is done through the power of the art magic, at which I, of course, laughed, and declared that, so soon as a man of the regiment (by name Shaikh Kureem, one of these Ruffai) should return from furlough, I would witness the exhibition.

A large tent was accordingly pitched, and fifty lamps furnished, and plates full of arsenic, and quantities of a plant of the cactus tribe filled with a milky juice, a drop of which, if it fall on your skin, blisters it, and a vast quantity of the common glass bangles, or bracelets, worn by the women, and daggers, and swords, and things like thick steel skewers, and other horrid-looking weapons like a butcher's steel, only with a large handle covered with chains, and about twenty Ruffais to beat all manner of drums: and so, when all was ready, about five of the officers left the mess-table with myself, and along with us about a hundred sepoy crowded into the tent. When we were seated and silence obtained, the work commenced by a sort of chant from their sacred books, the drum-beaters joining in and keeping time; the chant increased

at length both in noise and velocity, until, having worked themselves into an ecstacy, they seized hold of the instruments, the body kept in a sort of swinging motion, some plunged the skewer instruments, one through each cheek, another through the tongue, a third through the throat, and then commenced stabbing themselves with swords and daggers, and all sorts of nasty instruments. Others cut off their tongue, and having roasted it in the fire put it in their mouth again, when it immediately united; they eat the arsenic and the blistering milk-plant, whilst others munched the glass bangles as though they were the greatest delicacies. This was all done within half a yard of my knees, for they came up close to me with many lamps, in order that I might see there was no deception; and I do assure you it made me feel sick, and produced anything but an agreeable sensation on my mind, for to this moment I know not what to think of it. I am not superstitious, and, although the Colonel and numerous most respectable natives had declared to me that they *did* actually do these things, and that, if a sense were to be in any manner trusted, they had *seen* it all done, I would, nevertheless, not believe it. I was told beforehand that it required faith and purity on the part of the performer, and that then not a drop of blood would follow, but that otherwise a few drops of blood would sometimes follow the instruments, and the performer would receive some slight injury.

On taking my departure from the tent, I happened to say that I should at all events think more honourably of their prowess if I saw them exhibited in the open face of day, and divested of noise, motion, paraphernalia, &c. On the following day, whilst reclining on my couch at about two o'clock, reading an English newspaper, without a servant or a soul near me, in rushed their Kazees (priest or judge), his hand full of instruments, which throwing upon the ground, he seized one, plunged it through his cheeks on the left side, another on the right, a third through his tongue upwards, so that it stuck into his nose, another through his throat; he then stabbed himself with a bright and sharp creese, which entered his body about three inches; not a drop of blood fell; he was going to cut off his tongue, when I begged of him to desist. I was, in truth, perfectly nauseated at the sight. The man was in a state of frenzy, and really looked frightful, his face stuck full of instruments, and stabbing and cutting himself with all his might. I sang out for some people, and turned him out.

I have now told you what I have seen, and yet I will not ask you to believe it, for I know not myself what to think. There are many persons of very strong minds in other respects who firmly believe, and who do not hesitate to declare their belief, that, although driven out of Christendom, demonology, witchcraft, necromancy, and the entire list of black and forbidden arts and powers, are abroad and in existence in India. And I must declare that I will never again trust my senses if I did not see all that I have told you. I examined the instruments—I saw them drawn out of the flesh, and no scar, or blood, or mark left; I also saw a man eat and swallow three ounces of arsenic, and crunch and swallow glass bangles innumerable; and yet, although “seeing is believing,” I can scarcely say that I believe what before a court of justice I would swear I had seen.

ON THE SUPPOSED CONTAGIOUS PROPERTY OF YELLOW-FEVER.*

By DR. W. FERGUSSON, INSPECTOR GENERAL OF ARMY HOSPITALS/

MR. EDITOR,—Several months ago I stated to you that it was my intention to send to the United Service Journal a communication upon the supposed contagious property of yellow-fever in a form that would be adapted to the military reader, and consequently not unsuited to your pages; but, on reconsideration, I began to think that to ask room for a subject so entirely professional would be an abuse of your indulgence, and therefore I gave up the intention. I now resume it because I have seen, in one of your late numbers, that a detachment of the 1st West India Regiment, on arriving at Barbadoes from Trinidad, had been detained in quarantine for more than thirty days on board a very small ship, for fear of introducing the contagion of yellow-fever into that island, and, as I consider such a measure, on the part of the quarantine authorities,* to be one of the most audacious and unwarrantable that has ever been attempted even at Gibraltar, it being well known to all in the least degree acquainted either with black troops or the West Indies, that the negro is incapable of being affected with yellow-fever, consequently of introducing it, I here enter my health protest against making our troops, whether black or white, the subjects of so wanton an experiment, which, through over crowding, might generate other diseases. I consider that the best form of protest I can adopt will be here transcribing a note that was appended to a paper of mine on Malaria or the Marsh Poison, and read before the Royal Society of Edinburgh in the year 1819. It was not then published, but Dr. James Johnson afterwards made it known to the medical world in an appendix to his valuable work on the diseases of hot climates. It is not likely, however, that it could have met the eye of the military reader, and therefore I now quote it entire.—

"The yellow-fever cannot be a contagious disease, because during its utmost rage it is confined almost exclusively to a particular and very limited class of the inhabitants of the West Indies, viz the newly-arrived, and never affects the coloured people, unless it finds them under the same circumstances, of being newly arrived from a cold climate, although that last class is the most numerous by at least ten to one of the inhabitants, and is besides as liable as the rest of mankind to fall under the influence of every acknowledged contagion, such as typhus fever, plague, small-pox, measles, and scarlatina.

"It cannot be a contagious disease, because even amongst white people it has been proved, from official returns, that the attendants on the sick are less liable to be attacked with fever than those who have never approached the sick bed, and because it has also been proved, in a multiplicity of instances, that the disease is not communicable to the wounded,

* At the very time this was going on at Barbadoes the inhabitants of Demerara were busy interdicting its shipping and commerce—*vide* Medical Gazette, No. 13, January 20th, alleging that they (the Barbadians) had introduced yellow-fever into that colony of mud and swamp! What a spectacle—what a treat to the cynic to behold the circle of West India communities all generating yellow-fever during certain unhealthy seasons, yet unable, or *unwilling*, to perceive that the malarious poison springs from beneath their feet, at the bidding of the quarantine master, denouncing one another as the importers, vexing their mutual commerce, and arraying man against his fellow man with all the hostility of excommunication, all the terrors of insane and selfish panic.

the surgical sick, the convalescent, or the healthy, though occupying the most contiguous beds in the same hospital.

"It cannot be contagious, because it has also been frequently seen that, when a regiment has been divided into separate detachments, the different divisions have been affected with distinct types of fever, according to the circumstances of temperature and locality of their respective quarters; and, when one of them happened to be stationed in the locality of yellow-fever (which is almost always at or near the level of the sea), that form of fever was incapable of being conveyed to the other detachments in the higher ranges of country, however frequent and indispensable may have been the necessary communications between them.

"It cannot be contagious, nor anything but a seasoning remittent fever of violent and malignant form, peculiar in a great degree to the newly-arrived, because all who have been debilitated by long residence in hot climates, and would, therefore, be the first to fall under the influence of a new plague, are in a great degree exempt from this form of the disease. And, lastly, it cannot be contagious, nor anything but the product of unwholesome locality and uncommon drought of season, because, in the warmer countries of Europe and North America, where all the inhabitants are under the same circumstances as the newly-arrived in the West Indies from the effect of the preceding winter, it has never been seen, except in some particularly low situations, where the heat has been steadily, for a considerable time previously, of the West India temperature; nor retained in them after that degree of heat has been changed by the change of season, nor transported from them even during its utmost rage to other localities in the closest vicinities, if of higher elevation, of better ventilation, and cooler atmosphere.

"The foregoing are not vague assertions, but matters of fact that have been verified and recorded by the official returns of our armies in the West Indies for the last twenty-five years.

"As in every epidemic where multitudes are in the course of being affected, every supposable degree of communication must of necessity be constantly taking place amongst the inhabitants of a crowded camp or city; all or any of the believers in contagion may have their creed confirmed in any manner they please, from the dead or the living, by the passing events of every day; and it is only by reference to such facts as the above that the delusion can be cured, and that the observer can be brought to distinguish clearly between the agency of epidemic and contagious influence. Those, however, who have only read the reports of panic from the theatre of the epidemic will seldom be cured of the delusion; no more will those who have seen the disease, but have fled in affright from its supposed contagion; but all who are compelled to remain within its epidemic current, and witness the progress of its successive invasions through the recurrence of sickly seasons, must infallibly have their eyes opened to its real nature, if they be at all capable of distinguishing truth from error.

"In opposition to the fact that has been so often verified in every colony of the West Indies, that the sailors of merchant-ships landed with yellow-fever never infected the crowded, unwholesome suburb lodging-houses to which alone they had access, it has been said, with much feasibility, to have been imported in ships; but this is another delusion arising from the well-known fact that newly-arrived strangers are generally the immediate and most striking victims of every epidemic; and hence our most thoughtless intemperate sailors, when at these dangerous times they are thrown into the unwholesome anchorages of the West Indies, are not only the first to suffer from the epidemic in its course, or about to begin, but they are denounced as the importers by the prejudiced vulgar; and the accusation is loudly re-echoed, even among the better informed, by all

who wish to make themselves believe that pestilence cannot be a native product of their own habitations. The incomprehensible punctuality of ships regularly arriving at some particular seaports of Spain and North America fraught with the pestilence of yellow-fever, at the precise stage and period, and at no other, of those hot and dry seasons that assimilate them to the unwholesomest of the West India towns, can therefore be no more than a fiction of prejudice—a delusion of panic terror."

I should hope the above will be deemed conclusive in regard to the contagion of yellow-fever, and by demonstrating the true nature of the disease rescue many a gallant spirit from the terrors of an unreal phantom, which would otherwise haunt him under the form of the sick soldier in hospital—the companion of his mess-table—or the members of his domestic household when taken with illness. The real terrors that accompany the march of such a destroyer are sufficiently formidable in themselves without this cruel aggravation—the most anti-social and unchristian, to judge from its effects, that could be inflicted upon him; but once bring him to understand the true nature of his position in regard to the disease, and there can be little reason to doubt that he would meet it with the firmness becoming his national character, in the assured confidence that the danger would pass away in the course of the seasons, or that he would soon become so well seasoned and habituated to the climate as to be independent of its influence.

So much for the West Indies, where the contagion of fever can scarcely be made to exist under any form, and where, if it could be made to exist, the quarantine authorities, by cooping up men in quarantine in the manner they are represented to have done, would be the most likely to produce it; but in our own climates we have contagions both essential and factitious, which at times will devastate our military quarters, and of which it may be well that every military officer, upon whom a command may devolve, should possess a competent knowledge. The essential contagions—such as small-pox, scarlet-fever, &c., which can be carried to any part of the world—are those that on the reception of a particle into the body contaminate the whole frame, just as surely as the poison-drop from the fang of the viper will produce its specific effects: against these it is impossible that any purity of atmosphere, or precautions of discipline, can avail—for, as long as approach to the diseased is permitted, there can be no safety but in segregation. The other contagions, of which all febrile diseases may be made susceptible, are those of accumulation and quantity. Thus, for example, crowd a number of sick into an ill-aired apartment, and it is probable that a highly-contagious atmosphere will speedily be generated most dangerous to all who enter it; but select any one—the very worst of the sick—and place him, after being cleansed and purified, in a well-ventilated room, it is equally probable that the closest approach will fail to communicate the infection; yet a single patient, in a narrow low-roofed cell, will as effectually vitiate the air and generate a contagious atmosphere as a crowd in the largest hospital.

It is, then, that the atmosphere of the crowd is contagious and not the person of any individual, but this, nevertheless, is the contagion which so certainly adheres to all European armies, during winter campaigns more especially, and commits the most terrible devastations. The patient, while purified as above, ceases to be personally contagious, but, unless that purification be continued throughout the whole illness, his clothes, even after recovery, will be filled with it, and he will have impregnated every absorbing substance, whether body-coverings, bedding, or furniture, with the accumulated poison. It was in this way that the army of France, on returning from the campaign of Moscow, diffused the infection of typhus-fever throughout the whole kingdom. It was in this way that the native armies of Spain—sometimes, too, of Portugal—in the earlier part of the Peninsular

war, became moving clouds of the disease; and it is in this way, even now amongst ourselves, that the wandering mendicants of Ireland, with unchanged clothes, after recovery, leave infection behind them amongst the families where they may have obtained shelter; and this would be a terrible state of things if we had not at command means of disinfection so simple, easy, practicable, and efficacious, that without our knowledge we are often saved by them even in spite of ourselves, and the mystifications that have been played off upon the fears and ignorance of the people under the form of fumigations, which, because they smelled strong and made the bystanders cough, have been supposed to possess great powers of disinfection. The muriatic acid, disengaged under a gaseous form, is the basis of all these last; but, as we know nothing of the nature of those vapours that communicate contagious diseases, whether they be acid, alkaline, or anything else, it is an equal chance that by using another strong acid we may be actually adding to, instead of diminishing, their virulence. This at least I know, that it was the business of my office for a long course of years to cause their use to be enforced in barracks, ships, and hospitals, and I can declare that I never saw the smallest benefit derived from them, nor the course of disease arrested; while the disinfectants to which I have alluded promptly and immediately served the purpose. These are fire, water, light, and air—with one alteration the old elements of our forefathers,—and they are ever at hand ever applicable.

The first of these—fire, or rather its product caloric (heat),—is immediately all-sufficient for every purpose of disinfection. Dr. Henry, of Manchester, demonstrated by positive experiment that the matter of small-pox, cow-pox, and scarlet-fever, was utterly deprived of all infecting quality on being exposed for a few hours to a heat of 140° of Fahrenheit; and these, as I have said before, are amongst the essential concentrated contagions. With the gaseous factitious ones, such as typhus-fever, there is every reason to believe that a much inferior degree of heat—one not greater than the ordinary temperature of the tropics—would suffice, for that disease has never yet, amongst all the infected transports that left our shores, been made to cross the tropic of Cancer, nor has the plague of the Levant ever been carried into the equatorial regions.* The process, then, is one of the simplest, for a portable iron stove filled with ignited charcoal, and left to burn for any length of time that will raise the necessary heat in the sick apartment, must infallibly disinfect it.† Through such a process as this the Russian peasant, possibly the nastiest, personally, in Europe, never has typhus-fever, for he heats the stove of his cabin to an inconceivable degree, and uniformly takes a vapour-bath of the hottest kind once a-week or oftener. He, in fact, lives under a course of disinfection. Light is another disinfectant equally sure, but it is not adapted

* The infection of the plague itself is known to cease in Egypt (vide Assalini) on the advent of the Midsummer heats; and to proclaim that the yellow fever is a contagious disease, while it is the product of the disinfecting principle itself—of that degree of atmospheric heat with which infection is incompatible and the contagion of fever cannot exist—is, therefore, as unphilosophic an assumption as ever was imposed upon the fears and credulity of the people. The most crowded ship that ever sailed from the land of rapine and crime has never yet succeeded in generating infectious fever amongst the suffocating cargo; and the special law of retribution, through which, if such a disease could arise amidst the naked victims, their white oppressors would so surely be destroyed, seems here to be superseded by a mightier general law of Divine wisdom, which, by ever furnishing the disinfecting agent, has affixed its veto to the extension of contagious fever in the regions of the torrid zone.

† Charcoal is preferred merely because it is free from the nuisance of smoke, which, under the shape of any kind of fumigation, is ever superfluous and unnecessary, unless to correct bad smells.

for military purposes, its operation being essentially slow, and the requisite time to produce the effect indefinite. The power, however, which, without the intervention of air, can in the closest-stopped bottles deprive Cayenne pepper of its sting, render the strongest prussic acid as mild as salad oil, and convert our most potent medicinal powders into so much powder of post, is not to be doubted. Nearly the same may be said of air and water, and all these three last are, through the beneficence of the Creator, in the medium of our common atmosphere, constantly operating unseen, but sure, to destroy the epidemic contagions which would otherwise in numerical progression go on to extirpate the human race. But to return to the practical application in the hands of the military officer. Let him be at the pains to see that the stoves are lighted as above—that boiling water has been applied to every article to which it can be made applicable—that the walls have been whitewashed as soon as the sick are removed, and that quick-lime has been mixed in to correct all offensive nuisances,*—and he will have done all that the philosophy of the schools can effect in removing the dangers of contagion. He cannot, of course, by such means foreclose the fresh supplies of infection which the living bodies of the sick must be constantly giving out; but, whenever these may be dead or removed, he may rest assured that they will leave no infection behind them.

There is another superstitious fear connected with contagion from which it may be well to free the military mind—and that is the dread of infection from the dead body. But contagion is a living vapour, and the cold dead carcase can have none to give out. Should an inoculable matter be left upon its surface, such as that of small-pox, or the crust that accompanies scarlet-fever, it is certain that the first, and not impossibly the last, may be *sublimated* from it, either through the heat of the weather, or the heat generated in the process of putrefaction, so as, through the aid of a current of air, to infect the bystanders; but with regard to all other diseases it is impossible, and the proof is to be found at the dissecting-rooms of every medical school in Europe, where, from time immemorial, have been received, without question or examination, the dead of every disease, without ever communicating infection, except in the case of small-pox, either to the student that dissected them, or to the resurrection-men in the exercise of their nefarious trade.†

In the foregoing may be traced one of those beautiful ordinances of the Deity, through which man has been placed on this globe of earth, with the evident intention of perfecting his being here below, through the progress of mind, and the advances of civilization. He has been constituted a gregarious animal; but to that gregariousness have been affixed limits, and, when these are contemned, the caveat is promptly made to appear under the form of contagious disease. All other animals are furnished by nature with clothing to their bodies: man alone has been left to find his own, and to discover, through the operation of that reason with which he has been gifted, that, if he neglect the decencies of supply and change, he will be visited in the first instance with the most revolting of the plagues of Egypt, and, in the course of time, generate the worst

* If quick-lime cannot be procured, common vinegar, and that in no great quantity (about a quart at a time), thrown into the necessaries, will neutralize the compound ammoniated gases which, in hot climates more especially, add such insupportable pungency to the stench.

† The dissection wounds that have proved so fatal to the operators have no connexion with the diseases of which the subjects have died. They are all of the same kind, proceeding from a peculiar poison that is generated in the principal cavities of the dead human body shortly after death, and are always the result of a chance inoculation.

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contagions that can be inflicted upon himself or communicated to his fellow-men. Heaven sends diseases, it is true, but the channels of their transmission are our own abuse or neglect of the very means that have been given to enhance our well-being and prolong our lives. I address these observations to the military officer, because it is upon masses of men that their truth can be best ascertained, and the means of preservation be best employed,—where discipline can be made available to save, and its neglect to entail the greatest calamities.

WM. FERGUSSON.

Note.—The animal poison that has been generated through accumulation in the unchanged coverings of the human body, has often proved as fatal and deadly as the worst malaria of the fens. The magistrate on the bench has been infected by the criminal standing before him; and at the celebrated Black Assizes at Oxford, so called from their fatality—the no-less-celebrated Old Bailey Sessions in 1750, and others—nearly the whole Court, including the jury, were struck with gaol fever, through the circumstance of an open window behind the dock where the prisoners were placed sending a current of air from them upon the assembled people; and not the least wonderful part of this remarkable occurrence was the fact that the prisoners themselves had not at the time the actual disease they were thus communicating with such fatal effect. They were not then in fever; because their constitutions had been so ~~withered~~ and benumbed through the long-continued application of the poison which they carried about them, as to be incapable of throwing it off by the channel which nature had decreed of acute disease; resembling in this respect the inhabitant of the swamp, who, although never healthy, and destined certainly to an early grave, will often show nothing of marsh fever until he be removed to a healthy country, and then, if he has any powers of constitution left, it will most likely break out upon him; and so will the miserable gaol criminal, when restored to purer air and better clothing, in all probability throw out the fever which he had long imbibed, but could not assume.

During the campaigns in Holland, last war, it was often remarked that those who had escaped the ague of its worst fens were frequently taken with it after being restored to the healthy atmosphere of their own country; and how frequently has it been seen that soldiers, during active service in the most unhealthy districts, feel nothing of their malaria until placed in quarters of seeming safety, when all the specific effects of the marsh poison were sure to show themselves! But even these are minor evils compared with the dreadful fact of the worst infectious disease being capable of communication from a source that gives no ostensible evidence nor warning of its existence. I know that this last observation applies to times gone by, rather than to our own; but even now, military officers, when dealing with prisoners of war or military criminals long confined, ought to be aware of the danger that may await them from too near or incautious an approach. The burning of a few handfuls of charcoal, with the aid of clean linen, will certainly disinfect the most saturated lazar that ever came out of a pest-house; but until that ceremony, or an equivalent to it, such as a hot-bath, be performed, no one can answer for his being otherwise than dangerous.

W. F.

Windsor, April, 1838.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

FRANCE.

NATIONAL GUARDS OF PARIS.

THE present effective strength of this force is 58,431 men, among whom there are 1784 officers, and 9500 subalterns.

THE BRAZILS.

MILITARY MATTERS.

The votes of the Legislature with regard to the military organization of the empire have only once been brought into operation; and this was in the time of the late Dom Pedro, who had no sooner established an imperial sovereignty in the country, than he followed up his darling scheme of attempting to constitute a military force worthy of his new crown. His display against Buenos Ayres was on an imposing scale, but the issue of the campaign was unfortunate and ignominious in the extreme. From this moment the Brazilian Army began to decline: it ceased to be a *point d'appui* for the Sovereign, or to keep the arrogant pretensions of the legislative body in check. The disgraceful peace of 1828 threw the reins of power into the hands of the latter, and the revolution of 1831 dismantled the Government of the slender remains of power which were left to it. A portion of the regular troops were at that period sent out of the country for mutiny, and no levies have since been made, so that the Army has dwindled down into a mere handful of privates, overladen with officers, whose names figure in no columns but those of the yearly budget. The Army is, in fact, an object of jealousy and suspicion to the Legislature, positively reduced to the veriest nutshell, and principally confined to a knot of undisciplined mutinous invalids, whom it is deemed a piece of great good fortune to have at hand; and for this simple reason, that there is no possible means of extricating the military establishment out of the slough into which it has been cast. The conscription is in the worst odour among the Brazilians, for they dread the effect of insinuating any thing like warlike propensities into the minds of the youth of the country. The conscription has been nullified, too, by the imperfect state of the population returns, and the opposition of the official authorities themselves, who are the first to counteract it, whenever the sons of influential families are in danger of being called out. The National Guards and Municipal Police absorb the few resources out of which an Army might be created, as neither corps is confined to heads of families.

The aversion to the military service was sufficiently general, even so far back as the year 1814, to prevent the taking of the census ordered by John VI. Little is to be effected by voluntary enrolment, for patriotism can rarely be roused into action; and the means of existence are so readily obtainable by manual labour, that the military life here is shorn of its attractions; and this antipathy is felt even in the case of the Municipal Police corps, whose pay is quintuple that of the common soldier, while their services are limited to the borders of their native province. Forced enrolment is entirely out of the question: no less so, the making use of foreign soldiery, in reference to whom the Brazilians have not forgotten the shameful conduct of the German troops, when led astray by the weakness of their commander in the year 1828. The Budget for 1836 states the number of officers to be 2884, inclusive of those who have retired on pensions, as well as those who are on service. Amongst them are six

Field-Marshal at about 2400*l.* per annum each; eight Lieutenant-Generals at 1730*l.*; seventeen Major-Generals at 320*l.*; twenty-nine Brigadier-Generals at 600*l.*; and ninety-five Colonels at 240*l.* In the same year the number of troops under arms did not exceed 3500 men; and at the time of making this statement the Minister of War declared, that at Rio itself he had not more than 100 men at his disposal. The whole 3500 constitute no fewer than eighteen corps! And this insignificant Army of the Brazilian empire,—thanks to the redundancy of its officers, the expenditure on arsenals, civil administration, &c., puts the empire to an expense, equivalent to one-fourth of its whole income. With all this, it would be impossible to enumerate even so many as five score officers competent to their duties, or fit to be entrusted with a command!—(*From a late Resident.*)

Naval Affairs.—The present Minister of the Naval department is about thirty years of age; he is a civilian, and has never been at sea, but is a well-educated man, and possesses valuable acquirements, as well as considerable talent, great uprightness of principle, and is more temperate than most around him in his political views. In his double capacity of minister and representative, the influence he exercises is extensive. The coasting trade is the nursery for the Brazilian seamen, and supplies good crews.

The regulations enacted in 1834 placed the Naval department on the subsequent footing. They established a *ministry* of the Navy; a Naval Board of Inspection; a pay office; an office of accounts; a victualling and equipment department; and an office of supervision for the arsenals. The number of workmen employed in these last-mentioned establishments is from 900 to 1000: in time of war it is doubled, and even trebled. There are Naval arsenals in every port, where vessels of war can be built. In 1832 the Naval Academy was united with the Military School, but the necessity for disjoining soon became obvious. The course of mathematical instruction in this Academy lasts four years; and the scheme of studies is adopted from the late Naval college at Portsmouth, but with such ill-digested modifications as greatly to militate against its efficiency. This is, however, no more than what is incident to every adaptation borrowed by the Brazilians. In proof, I will just instance the including tactics and strategics in the first year's course. An Observatory was ordered to be erected as far back as the year 1827, but no progress towards building it has yet been made. The prominent defects in the Naval, as well as the Military Academy are, that no pains whatever are taken to instil the principles of moral conduct, nor even of obedience and subordination, into the minds of the pupils; whilst the most essential points in military science are wholly neglected, and the teachers are so miserably remunerated that no man of any eminence can accept the office. It is a fact that the porters and domestics are better paid than their chiefs. The pupils' examinations seldom last above an hour.

The officers of the navy in the Brazils take precedence of the officers of the army, and their uniforms and decorations designate their superior rank. The pay of an officer of marines, when on shore, is the same as that of a military officer of similar rank. The corps of marines was raised in 1835 to 600 men, but for a long time previously had not exceeded one-half of that number, as several hundreds of them did not choose to take part in the revolution of 1831, and were, consequently subjected to judicial proceedings. It is impossible to name a single native of distinction in the Brazilian navy; nor can any better report be made of the Portuguese who hold commissions in it. The only men likely to take a lead in any future naval transactions are Commodore Taylor, chief of a squadron, and counsellor *en chef* to the minister of the navy; Captain Grenfell, who lost his right arm in the attack on Buenos Ayres; and Captain Ingles, now in command of a frigate. All three are British subjects.—(*From the same.*)

GREECE.

FORTRESS OF AKRO-CORINTH.

We were kindly received by the commandant, who resides in a small, strongly-constructed dwelling, the interior as well as exterior of which is quite in the Turkish style. The principal apartment is ornamented with arabesques, and has a marble chimney-piece and hearth, on which a fire of cypress wood is kept burning; for at this great elevation the atmosphere is at all times bleak and cutting. An orderly was directed to accompany us. Our first march was into the garden, which, though confined, is full of seats, in the shape of shafts of columns, capitals, pedestals, and tablets with inscriptions on them, all of the purest Pentelic marble, and of dazzling whiteness; they are the remains of the celebrated temple of Apollo, which in ancient days crowned the heights of the Akro-Corinth. The next object we fell in with was the barrack in which the garrison is quartered: it has a yawning fracture in the centre; but the soldiery seem utterly regardless of what the chapter of accidents has inevitably in store for them. Thence we defiled from battery to battery and work to work, the one covering the other, and each raking its neighbour. These defences cover an enormous range of site, in abruptly rising ascents, and seem constructed as if it had been intended that they should never "perish from the things that be." After a long and toilsome progress we at length reached the loftiest point of the Akro-Corinth, and were greeted by the aspect of a small, circular, ancient temple, which I should have set down as sacred to Mars, had not Pausanias disagreed with me in opinion. The view from this spot is enchanting; the eye ranges across the gulfs of Salamis and Lepanto, and stretching over the Isle of Salamis, catches a glimpse of the Acropolis of Athens in the remotest distance, and when the sky is clear, Mount Parnassus. The immense range of works at your feet bristle with cannon sufficient to arm the redoubts of an entire line of battle. Here are old Venetian guns with the shaggy lion, most of them thirty-sixes and forty-eights, and Turkish monsters of weightiest calibre, with the Ottoman crescent and star; close beside them lay large chain-shot. The prodigious extent of the fortress may be conceived from the fact, that, when you are in hunting mood, you may pursue the pleasures of the chase within its precinct: nay, the garrison, who purchase living beasts and allow their sheep and goats to pasture at large, being unable to catch them again, are obliged to shoot them when wanted. The Akro-Corinth, if well supplied and properly provisioned, may bid defiance to any beleaguerer; for the taking it by storm is quite out of the question, and I cannot conceive that any projectiles could be thrown so as to injure it. Besides storehouses, a lazaretto, mosque, &c., it contains a cannon-foundry. One is not aware of the steepness and abruptness of the ascent until one comes to descend, and then if you do not hang steadily back, you must run forwards, at the risk of tripping and being hurled head-foremost over the ramparts to that "bourn whence no traveller returns."—B. N.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL.

Colonel Napier to Captain Jebb.

MR. EDITOR,—Captain Jebb, in your last Number, says, that he writes under the orders of his superior officer, and not of his own motion. The irksome nature of such a task has probably induced Captain Jebb to curtail his official labours by withholding the abundant additional testimony with which he is provided.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

WM. NAPIER.

The Army Medical Department.

MR. EDITOR,—On a recent occasion a long-delayed act of justice, in the form of a Brevet, was extended almost generally to the officers of the Military and Naval Services. To the former I say *almost* generally; for there was one glaring and inexplicable omission—perhaps it deserves a more severe appellation. The Army at large; including the General Staff, Cavalry, Infantry, Artillery, Engineers, Commissariat Department, and Marines, all shared in a greater or less degree in the *general* promotion: to prove the rule, however, the Medical Department was selected as the exception.

The fact is now established; but why is it so? Do medical officers perform duties of a less hazardous or important kind than those of other branches of the Service? Are they less exposed to the hardships of military life, or less frequently quartered in unhealthy climates? Or do they already enjoy remuneration equal to their services? The last query has occurred to me, because an erroneous opinion, received and passed on without examination, exists among many in the Army, that medical officers are more liberally rewarded than others. But, whatever the causes may be, the justice of the case very naturally becomes a subject of consideration, and if possible of exposition, by those on whom the consequences rest.

The services of almost every class of officers in the Army have repeatedly been brought before the country in a variety of modes, yet a full measure of justice has not been obtained even by those hardy veterans who earned their laurels on the fields of the Peninsula or Waterloo. In the furtherance of so meritorious an object, the public Journals and Periodicals have lent their powerful aid, and partial success has already crowned their labours; but much remains to be effected before the grey-haired Subalterns of the Army are provided for as their merits deserve.

The Medical Department of the Army has rarely or never had its claims advocated in the House of Commons, or formally appealed to the still more powerful influence of public opinion; but, in the silent and sedulous execution of its relative duties, has left its deserts to speak for themselves. Is it, therefore, presumed that its silence is that of content, that its patience arises from insensibility, or shall its forbearance be construed into a diffidence of its claims? No! but in the arduous pursuits of abstract science its members have confided in a nation hitherto distinguished by generosity to the deserving, but justly jealous, from painful experience, of the manner in which her vast revenues are expended. Indeed, medical officers have been backward in preferring their reasonable demands to a culpable degree; nor has this escaped the observation of others, who have noticed it by some rather sarcastic and uncalled-for remarks. They are widely scattered abroad in our foreign garrisons or remote colonies, where it too often hap-

pens that the voice that proclaims a grievance is stifled; and in hopeless, heartless exile, they find that year after year rolls past, and promotion or reward comes not; nay, they have not even the poor consolation of knowing that their just complaints are conveyed to the public ear. It is impossible for them, however little disposed to obtrude their case, to refrain any longer from openly stating their sense of the marked neglect with which they have been treated, by being altogether left out in the late Brevet promotion.

In order that the present condition and prospects of the medical profession in the Army may be more clearly understood, a brief review of its advantages and disadvantages may not, I trust, be unacceptable to those who have never reflected on, but feel an interest in, the subject. It is true "comparisons are odious," and too apt to produce unkindly feelings; and, in consequence of the unavoidable necessity of resorting to them, I have felt extreme reluctance to enter on this undertaking. I therefore declare, *in limine*, that my whole and sole purpose is simply to point out the manifest injustice with which one particular body has been treated, and to demand, upon grounds which I shall try to demonstrate to every reasonable mind, that some equitable recompense shall be substituted. The Medical Department having been made the exception in the late *general* promotion is, I conceive, a sufficient excuse for comparing its claims with those branches of the Service which have benefited by it, without the supposition of an unworthy motive. I have waited for nearly a year in daily expectation of seeing the subject taken up by some more competent advocate, who had access to those official sources of information that are not within the reach of the majority of the profession, but in vain; yet I have heard the general murmurs of my brother-officers, till at last I felt that a good cause might be forwarded even by my efforts.

The present position of the medical officer is an anomaly. He is compelled to enter much later in life than all others; and, while in that rank in which three-fourths of his whole services are performed, he has neither so good daily pay as the other civil officers in the Army, nor, under any circumstances, has he the power of realising a sum by the sale of his commission like the purely military officer. At the same time the slowness of promotion in the Department exceeds all others, especially among the junior ranks. At this moment there are, out of the whole list of Assistant-Surgeons (310), about thirty who have been upwards of twenty years in the same grade, and if we were to add six years to each, which I will immediately show ought to be the case, it will, I think, be allowed that they ought not to have been deliberately passed over in the general distribution of rewards. This statement, which every one has the means of verifying, is so strong that it encourages me in this attempt, feeble as I fear it will be, to call the attention of those in power to the consideration of *bonâ fide* services, by whomsoever performed.

The young man who intends to be a surgeon, after having received a liberal education, generally speaking, at a university, instead of entering the Army as an Ensign at the usual age of seventeen or eighteen, resolves on the study of medicine, and for this purpose he has to devote himself for the space of six years to the acquisition of professional knowledge. Few would enter on such a pursuit if it did not present some inducements, varying in character, no doubt, according to the ambitious (a comprehensive term) or philanthropic turn of mind of the individual; but many have barely passed the threshold of their *curriculum* when these attractions fade, at least for a time, in the long prospective of labour which opens to their view in the dry initial readings. The medical student finds that he must pass his days among the suffocating vapours of the laboratory in examining the elementary nature of matter; or in the offensive or even noxious atmosphere of the dissecting-room, over the disgusting remains of corrupted humanity—alone endurable from a deep sense of the absolute

importance of anatomy, or from that dawning love of philosophy which breaks in on the mind of the wildest and most thoughtless youth, as he contemplates the design and perfection of that all-wonderful piece of mechanism which links the soul to earth—the last and noblest work of our incomprehensible Creator. From such scenes he passes to the receptacles of suffering and disease, where, with young and untrained head and heart, he has not only to witness, but narrowly to investigate and study, the most loathsome maladies, by which his fellow-creatures are afflicted : and here again, it is a feeling of compassion and desire to relieve, that enables him to resist the assaults on almost all his senses and sympathies, which he encounters in the public hospitals. Perhaps with blanched cheek and sickening heart he tries to sustain himself by moral courage, in order that he may *coolly* look on and learn, while some able Surgeon, with that *sang froid* not always acquired by years, is performing some of those bloody operations, by which modern science has so signally triumphed over diseases hitherto invincible.

Six years ! must thus be passed before the candidate for medical honours can even be *admitted* for examination at the legally-constituted colleges for granting degrees.

The expenses of a medical education are very considerable, even under the most favourable circumstances. Let any one calculate the amount of those enormous fees which in this country are necessary to admit the student to the public hospitals (mainly supported by such contributions) and lecture-rooms of his profession, where it is compulsory on him to attend, in order to obtain such legitimate certificates as he can present at the college or university where he receives his diploma. Add to this, at the most moderate and reasonable rate, the cost of living, clothing, travelling to and from the recognised schools of medicine, books, instruments, &c., during the period appointed by law, and the whole will be found to be at *least* equal to, if it does not exceed, the price of a Lieutenant's commission.

Now, supposing the same individual had chosen the profession of arms, and received an Ensigny without, or even by purchase, he would, during the same six years, by being in the receipt of pay,—poor enough, God knows ! but still, along with other emoluments, and, above all, *obtaining credit for service*, have been somewhat better off than in toiling, without the first, or being able to reckon on the second, to *prepare* himself for a medical commission.

The surgeon or M.D. having completed the appointed course of professional study, and been duly qualified, will, in all probability, still have to wait for a year or two more before he can procure a commission ; consequently, when he begins his career in the army, he is from twenty-three to twenty-four years of age. He *must* be twenty-two by the regulations. On entering the Service, he meets with officers of his own age in the rank of Lieutenant, whether they may have purchased or not, and already within the range of a very comfortable article in the warrant* regulating the grants of half-pay, &c., which provides, in the event of his wishing to retire from the Service, that, " If he did not purchase his commission, he may receive the new price of that commission, if a Lieutenant with *seven years' full-pay* service in the Army, or with *six years'* if a Cornet or Ensign, and the old price of the commission if *under* those periods, and *above* four years' full-pay service." Even the possibility of such a benefit can never be attained by medical officers under any circumstances or by any length of service. Many of them who have left the Army after seven years could not procure the slightest remuneration for their past services. An Assistant-Surgeon has the rank of Lieutenant at once, and he is allowed one shilling per diem more than those of the same grade, I suppose to make up for what he has lost by being obliged to enter so late, and for

such medical books, instruments, &c., as his profession and the good of the Service require him to have, and to carry about with him, at a very considerable additional expense.

Are the duties of medical officers equally important and laborious as those of others in the Army? I believe that every one will answer in the affirmative, that they are at least *equally so*. The surgeon is one of the few whose post is always at the head-quarters of his regiment. He shares the hardships of the field, of the camp, and of foreign stations. The last are in reality now to be estimated as the services of danger, and very properly so; for the loss of life, and irreparable injury to the constitutions of many of those who survive, are proportionately as great as during some of our most glorious campaigns. Now, the fact is, that the active duties, fatigue, and exposure of the medical officer are invariably increased, at the very moment when it is the object of every act and order of Governors, and others in command, to preserve the health of officers and men. He must encounter the burning rays of the meridian sun within the tropics, the chilly damps of night, or inhale the deleterious effluvia of the swamp or lake at that hour when it is doubly pestilential to the human frame. Much of his time must be spent in the fulsome air of the hospital, for so it will be whenever many bodies, labouring under the influence of mortal disease, are congregated together in a hot climate. But, above all, he must bear up against that desponding passion which will often haunt the recesses of the most stern and philosophic mind, when he sees men daily, or even hourly, hurried off by some unconquerable malady, before there is even time for the operation of the most rapid medical treatment. His mind is always engaged, and his cares are unceasing, for each successive day brings fresh cases of disease, which absorb his interest, or excite that painful anxiety which naturally arises when the life of a fellow-creature is endangered.

The privations and constraints to which medical officers are peculiarly exposed have long been felt, but never complained of. To almost all other officers, the indulgence of leave of absence is granted, with such certainty and regularity, as to be considered in the light of a privilege enjoyed by roster; but there is no such good fortune for the surgeon. On the appointment of an Assistant to the Service, he is sent at once to do duty at Chatham, instead of being allowed the usual period of two months' leave, for the purpose of fitting himself out, &c. Henceforth he may bid adieu to leave of absence, unless by some rare and fortuitous circumstance, or by paying some civil practitioner a sum more than his pay to do his duty. Many, on returning home after a continued residence of twelve or fifteen years at some foreign station, most likely a tropical climate, can scarcely obtain *two months'* leave, and even then by finding some one to do their duty. Two months in fifteen years! What would our Cornets and Ensigns on home service, in these piping times of peace, say to this, when they consider themselves to be exceedingly ill used if they do not receive at least two or three months annually? As to those longer periods of leave to which other ranks become virtually entitled after having been two years abroad, the medical officer never even dreams of. The causes of this are sufficiently obvious, and mainly, if not altogether, depending on the present reduced establishment of the Medical Staff. But, putting aside all claims for leave based on the plea of urgent private affairs or ill health, I do sincerely believe that no officer in the Service more imperatively requires an occasional relaxation both of body and mind than he who has to support the continuous and harassing responsibility attached to the care of the sick. It would, at the same time, afford an opportunity of visiting the capitals of these and other kingdoms, the great emporiums of medical as well as of other sciences, where new and useful knowledge might be acquired, important alike to the individual and the Service at large. An unvarying routine of duties, prolonged without the prospect of a temporary remission, will, in the most zealous person, run some risk, in

depriving his duty of that pleasure to himself which is the greatest security for its being profitable to others. It is not to be wondered at, if an occasional feeling of disappointment should be created in the mind of medical officers, when they see themselves debarred from those gratifications which are allowed to their equals and juniors in rank. But it is alike creditable and surprising, to observe how seldom such feelings are displayed, even when the fondest hopes are often blighted, by the difficulty or utter impossibility of procuring leave of absence.

There are also certain hardships which are particularly confined to Assistant-Surgeons. Among others, may be mentioned their greater liability to be employed on detached duties, and consequent exposure to the additional expense of travelling by land or water. The majority of Staff-Assistants are constantly changing their stations in that most troublesome and disagreeable of all duties, the charge of transports. Perhaps, after a voyage of five or six months, they are scarcely located for a year, when they are ordered away on the same duty, and again undergo the same expenses. Indeed, many of them might in all justice be entitled to the motto, "*per mare per terram.*" The Staff are not allowed servants, or any thing in lieu thereof. The Regimental Assistant-Surgeon, whether at home or abroad, with the exception of those in the charge of depôts, are usually with a detachment, if there is one out from the corps, which is almost invariably the case. He sees his brother officers relieved in succession, and returning to head-quarters, but no relief comes to him. He is thus deprived of all the benefits of the mess and its *regium donum*, while he has to contribute equally with others towards its support. Again, the Second-Assistants are removed from their regiment on its return from foreign service, *not for their own, but for the public convenience*, and compelled to forego all the advantages which accrue from serving in the same corps for a number of years. They are probably appointed immediately to another regiment, and have to repeat the mess and band subscriptions (fifty days' pay), the fees of commission, the expense of uniform, &c., and *again go to the bottom of the list of Lieutenants*. This may occur again and again in the course of four or five-and-twenty years' service.

In pointing out the hardships and inconveniences which press on a particular branch of the Army, it must be confessed that several of the foregoing are unavoidably necessary for the good of the service and country, and perhaps absolutely connected with the medical profession in the Army. At the same time it must also be acknowledged that where duties, onerous in their nature, attended with unusual constraints and sacrifices in their performance, and requiring a long and expensive preliminary education, of a specific kind, are imposed on a body, it is consonant to reason and justice to expect and seek for some equivalent reward. But it has been just the reverse—that body has received neglect as a recompense, in a marked and singular manner. Will this be repeated when the next *general* promotion, apparently not very distant, is given to the Army? Medical officers cannot help feeling that their services do entitle them to be included in the benefits which are extended to the Army, either in the form of a brevet, or some other proportionately advantageous, and still more effective in relieving the grey-haired subalterns of the department. It is also to be hoped that some arrangement will be made, by which leave of absence may be more frequently obtained, at least with half as much facility as others, whenever urgent private affairs or health require it. Although we do not quite expect to have two or three months every year, yet we do hope that, after twelve or fourteen years of foreign service, even without the plea of ill-health, something more than *two* months may be granted. A year's leave to a medical officer would now be considered preposterous, however seriously impaired his health may be; he has no choice but to serve or go on half-pay; yet we daily hear of other officers being absent from their regiments for years.

After ten years' actual service in the Army, Assistant-Surgeons, by a late regulation, receive an increase of pay of 2s. 6d. per diem. This partial improvement in their condition was hailed as the harbinger of a more full compensation for the former neglect with which their services were treated. It cannot be considered, however, in any other view than as a well-meant, but still ineffective boon, and too limited in its operation to afford relief to those old assistants who are more than *twice* and some nearly *thrice* ten years in the Service. When it is recollected that the medical profession in the Army may be said to consist of *two* grades only, Assistant and Surgeon (there being, I believe, only seventeen situations higher than that of Surgeon in the department), and that four-fifths of their whole service are performed in the former, something proportionately beneficial ought to be done for *that* rank.

This addition of pay to the Assistant-Surgeon appears, at first sight, to give him a comparative advantage over those of the same rank, but it immediately vanishes when we inquire more narrowly into the relative circumstances of both. I have already shown that the former has a delay of at least *six* years, for the purpose of being qualified to hold his commission; so that, in fact, when he becomes entitled to his extra pay, his services ought to be reckoned at sixteen, instead of ten years, the time for which he would have obtained credit had he purchased a lieutenancy with the sum laid out on a specific education. On the other hand, subalterns, with all the advantages of an early admission into the Army, are by the time they reach ten, much less sixteen years' service, very likely filling some of the numerous situations in their Regiments, on the Staff, &c., which are accompanied by extra pay and allowances. Such good things never come in the way of the medical officer; indeed occasions occur where it would seem as if he was studiously excluded from them. At one of our foreign stations a strong detachment of a regiment was employed in making a road through a marshy and insalubrious district; all the men had extra pay, and the officers, who merely mustered their respective parties, and marched them to work, were allowed 4s. 4d. per diem, while the medical officer in charge of the whole, with *strict orders* to visit all the detachment once or twice a-day, making a circuit of eight or ten miles, was granted *nothing*—*not even forage for a horse*—in performing so laborious a duty. *Ex uno disce omnes*. The Assistant-Surgeon may, therefore, be considered as possessing no superiority in a pecuniary way over others, or if he did it would barely meet the necessary demands created by professional contingencies. He has no other improvement to look for in the course of twenty-four or twenty-five years' service in the same rank. When fourteen or fifteen years in the Army he sees those of his own age, who have got on without purchase, obtaining, and very deservedly so, unattached companies, if they have not been previously provided for in their own corps; and, although it brings no very great increase of pay, yet it produces a more substantial gain, by enabling the individual to realise a *something* by the sale of his commission.

The warrant (dated 29th July, 1830) regulating the pay of medical officers exhibits manifest indications of having been framed with a real and avowed intention of being *very* beneficial to the department. For its promulgation we are indebted to the liberal views and generous disposition of that upright man, Sir H. Hardinge, who has ever been the manly advocate and friend of the soldier, as well as of his country. It must not be forgotten, however, that, although Sir H. Hardinge fully appreciated and became the willing executor of the proposed plan of amelioration, yet it was originally suggested by the highest authority in the department. By experience, however, it has been found that the warrant in question has failed in producing the fruits which seem to have been contemplated in the first instance. It has not come into full operation, not from anything

in the document itself, but rather from what is not in it, and ought to have been provided for; and partly from circumstances that could not well be foreseen. This will be best explained by examining its provisions, by which it will be seen that its chief benefits are confined to the rank of Surgeon and upwards. Now it so happens, as things are at present, that this grade is attained so late in life, and at the expense of so great a waste of health, as generally to preclude the apparently fortunate man from being able to reap the full reward of labours, in the performance of which he has sacrificed the best portion of his life. When the remuneration for an officer's services consists in a mere annuity, that ends with his life, it ought not to be deferred to old age. In all the other civil departments of the Army, the aggregate pay in the first twenty years' service, exceeds that of the medical department in a remarkable degree, being more than double in some cases; and yet they may be entered much earlier in life.

Of 310 Assistant-Surgeons on full-pay in the Army, there are upwards of thirty who have been from twenty to twenty-eight years in the Service, being about *one in ten*. In the whole Army there are about 2280 Lieutenants on full-pay, of which there are 100 whose services exceed twenty years in the same rank, being in the proportion of *one in twenty-two*. These are round numbers, taken from the Army List, perhaps not correct to a figure, but sufficiently so for general purposes. Always keeping in mind the six years which ought to be added to the age and service of the medical subalterns, it may be fairly conceded that they are double the proportion of others. What is to be done for these men, whose grey heads and shattered constitutions ill fit them for service in the West Indies or Ceylon? Even if they were promoted to-morrow, they can only calculate on being able to enjoy the higher rate of the Surgeon's pay for a sadly brief space; more especially, as by the new regulation they have to commence in the lowest rate of their new rank. Something requires to be done, and that immediately, for there are not only the number which I have stated *over* twenty years' service, but there are many who may also be classed along with them within a very short period.

The pay of Surgeons, as regulated by the warrant of 1830, is liberal enough for the age, provided there was a greater proportion of higher grades to be reached by length of service, than the present very limited number employed on full pay in the Medical Staff. Even as it is, it looks much better in figures than it is in reality, from the reason which I have mentioned before, that it loses more than half its value by arriving so late in life. The list of General and Field Officers is very properly kept up by occasional brevets. Why are there no inspectors and deputy inspectors of hospitals made at the same time? A surgeon, considering the delay that attends his admission into the Army, seems, in justice, after thirty or thirty-five years' service in it, to be entitled to the rank of assistant or deputy-inspector with the full pay of his last rank. Only do not give him promotion to reduce his income nearly one-third. It can hardly be expected that, having been only a few years in the receipt of all that he has ever to look forward to, the highest rate of pay, he would be inclined to accept a rank that diminishes it at the daily rate of 6s. or 7s. This is not done to General Officers, for it is distinctly settled by warrant, that "all officers promoted to be General Officers shall receive the net full pay of the regimental rank which they last held, whether they were on full-pay or half-pay at the time they became General Officers." On the other hand, a medical officer obtaining promotion by brevet is necessarily placed on half-pay; in which case, if he shall not have served "three years in such rank, he shall receive only the rate attached to the rank from which he was last promoted." This would be but a small boon to a body of officers who have not the power of selling their commissions.

There certainly seems to be some measure required which shall enable old surgeons to retire without lessening their pay. Supposing the period

to be fixed at thirty, or at most, thirty-five years' actual service, the officer cannot then be much less than sixty years of age, in the rank of Captain. His is not the hale robust old age that will enable him to continue in the execution of arduous duties. Having no higher rank to obtain, nor increase of pay (for the graduated scale ends at thirty years), he surely ought to be permitted to enjoy the few remaining years of his life, and with sufficient means to secure the comforts necessary to a helpless senility.

At present, assistant-surgeons are, generally speaking, about twenty-five years in the service before they are promoted to the next step, and are consequently about forty-eight or fifty years of age. I venture to say, that a person having purchased his first two ranks, and afterwards worked his way through the Army, would, at the same time of life, most probably be a Field Officer, with a long vista of regular gradations and honours; and, above all, possess the power of realising a given sum if he pleases.

The last advantage is infinitely superior to any provision in the warrant of 1830, or, indeed, to anything which the medical department now possesses. By no rank or length of service can it be arrived at by the medical officer. The highest rate of pay of the surgeon, even if it begin at fifteen or twenty years' actual service, is not equivalent to the increase and capital which are combined together in the rank of Field Officer, or even Captain. The difference between a mere life annuity, and the same with a *bonâ fide* property, is too obvious to require comment. It is still more so, when the security for the former is frail, and depending on a life seriously injured by thirty years' active service, with three-fourths of the time in unhealthy climates. There are individuals who, perhaps, might prefer an income for life, but I fancy they are very few indeed, and, as it can only be those who, without relations or sympathies, have all their wants and desires centred in themselves, they therefore become exceptions to the general rule. As most men at fifty years of age, however, have families, or connexions, to whom they are desirous of bequeathing something more substantial than a name, it is a very great privilege to be able to change a life annuity into a permanent property. The majority of officers have this privilege already, and it has very properly been proposed, also, to give them the choice of retiring on an allowance regulated by a scale similar to that for the Civil Department of the Army. Such a concession on the part of the country has long been fully merited by old officers. At the same time, would it not be equally fair to allow *medical* officers a sum proportionate to their service in place of a retiring pension or half-pay? For example, the value of a Lieutenant's commission after ten, and that of a Captain after twenty years' service, and so on, would in some measure place the department on a par with other branches of the Service.* I have not referred to the tables of Life-Assurance Offices as bearing on this subject, because I conceive that it is intimately connected with the honour of our country that her servants should be equitably provided for, without the necessity of resorting to such establishments, where a worn-out constitution must ever make a bad bargain.

To afford an effective remedy for the present condition of the old assistant-surgeons, would require a brevet on too extensive and liberal a scale to be expected in these times. It would seem, however, that this is not the form in which justice is to be done to them. Let the deed be but executed, and it signifies very little by what term it is expressed. Some revisions and alterations in the warrant to which I have so often alluded are necessary, that it may come into full and beneficial operation, according to the spirit evinced in its construction, for, hitherto, the good which

*The commuted allowance which has been occasionally given to medical officers, in lieu of half-pay, is too paltry to be mentioned in any other light than as a charitable pittance to ward off immediate distress.

it promised has been rather illusory to the junior ranks. It must appear strange to a casual observer, and still more so to those who are better acquainted with the subject, that so great a difference of pay should exist between the surgeon and assistant, especially when we consider the length of service in the latter rank. Would it not, therefore, be more agreeable to the rules of justice, to grant a more gradual increase of pay to medical officers, in order that they may, at least, have some *real* recompense for their labour, *before* they arrive at that age when it is of less avail? This seems to be the wise and just principle to be adopted in those branches of the service who cannot sell their commission, and who have no promotion to look forward to beyond one or two ranks. To such there is but one kind of compensation practicable, and that is by a proportionate improvement in their daily pay, and that, too, in their earlier years, or it turns out a mere delusion. This seems to have been considered in the case of Chaplains, Paymasters, and the Commissariat Department, and a feeble attempt to carry out the principle in the case of assistant-surgeons has been made, by granting *one* increase of pay, at the expiration of ten years, but it was forgotten that they might be *twenty or twenty-five years in the same rank*. The services of a medical officer become more valuable in the ratio of his experience; I therefore conceive that the pay of assistants, being at present augmented 2s. 6d. after the first ten, should continue to increase at the same rate at the end of every successive five years, until they arrive at what may nearly be called the acme of their profession in the Army—a surgery. Such, or some similar arrangement can alone make up for the many disadvantages under which they labour. Should the circumstances of the department so change, that promotion may be much earlier obtained in future, so much the better for those who will not then be dependent on the plan of amendment which I have hinted at; but surely something is wanted for those who are *now* subjected to hardships that can only be alleviated by some such measure; or, if the time has not yet arrived for so complete an act of justice, it is to be hoped that, at all events, we may be included in whatever *general* promotions are given to our brother officers, and on such terms as will benefit, and not injure, the man whom it is intended to honour.

A more regular gradation of pay between the ranks of assistant and surgeon appears still more rational, when we recollect the similarity that exists in the nature and extent of their duties and responsibilities. I should think that, at least, one half of the staff-assistants are in separate charges of hospitals or detachments. One of the regimental assistants is usually in the care of the dépôt, with duties quite as onerous as those of the surgeon at head-quarters, and the other on foreign service is commonly on some detached duty with his own or some other corps.

There is another subject worthy of consideration, and which finds a response in the breast of the most stoical—the sense of rank. I would therefore also suggest, that assistants, after fifteen or twenty years' service, should have the rank of surgeon,—call them *second* surgeons, if it be necessary to distinguish them.* Such a class might be placed in charge of the more important posts at present filled by assistants. At the age of forty or forty-five, the nominal title of surgeon might be given to the person who had a legal right to it before he entered the Army.

Strange as it may appear, yet it has been argued by some, and very recently, too, I perceive, that medical officers are less dependent on their retiring pensions than others, because they have a profession. This is absurd! Their profession is their private property, and not acquired at one of the Government institutions. It might just as well be said, and far more forcibly, that any officer, after having spent his life in the service of his country, does not require an allowance because he has a private for-

* This would be a gratification that need not cost the country much.

tune. On the contrary, they cannot even realise the sum expended in acquiring their professional knowledge; so that, in fact, their little property is sunk in the Service, and rarely or never found. Supposing, however, that the argument was a good one, it is just possible, but exceedingly improbable, that a man, after thirty years' actual service, two-thirds or more abroad, most likely in the East or West Indies, with a broken-down constitution at the age of fifty-five, would have strength to undertake or succeed in getting private practice sufficient even to defray the expenses incidental to so foolish a scheme. In nine persons out of ten, health, mind, and habits, all conspire to forbid an attempt of the kind.

In concluding, I have to remark, that where it has been necessary to draw a parallel between the conditions and pay of medical and other officers, it is obvious that it could only refer to those classes who have obtained their commissions without purchase, or who have only paid for their first two steps a sum (700*l.*) about equal to the expenses of a medical education. For both are alike dependent on their profession and on the country which receives their services during the prime of life, and until manhood has given way to early decrepitude.

I have unconsciously extended these observations beyond the length which I originally contemplated: I trust, however, to be borne with on this score by those who may deem the subject worthy of a perusal, and who feel an interest in a body that has very rarely called the attention of the public to its just claims. If the reasoning which has been adduced in favour of the medical department of the Army be good and tenable, may we hope that some of the members of that House which alone can furnish the means of amendment will raise their voices within its walls and obtain a more equitable remuneration for the old medical officers who are lingering out their days on the shores of our colonies, in "hope deferred."

Public opinion and the House of Commons are the only true channels through which a full and free remedy can flow; and to their consideration do we submit this appeal.

C. M.

The Medical Department and the Brevet.

MR. EDITOR,—Trusting the few observations I enclose may meet the eye of those who have the power of doing an act of justice to a deserving class of public officers, I request your mention of them in your professional Journal.

On the occasion of the Army Brevet in July, 1830, a small number of old Surgeons obtained the promotion of Deputy-Inspectors, with the retirement of that rank. In the *extensive* Brevet of 1837, the Medical Department was overlooked, although the Commissariat was gratified by a promotion, in numbers, compared with the two Services, very large. I do not, in the least, deny the claims of the Commissariat, or any other public servants, to advancement, after long and faithful service; but I and others do, and must, feel sore, that the *head of our department* should submit to such an exclusion.

On the approaching Coronation of Her Most Gracious Majesty an Army promotion will, of course, take place; and I trust the claims of our department will be so strongly urged as not to be again disregarded.

There are still many Assistant-Surgeons of above twenty years' service whose hopes depend on this prospect. I should propose that Surgeons of twenty-five years' standing, who had served as such at least twenty years on full-pay, should obtain the rank of Deputy-Inspectors, with the retirement of 17*s.* per diem. I should not think that above twenty could make out such a claim; and as most of those are now entitled, as Regimental or Staff Surgeons, to the retirement of 1*s.* or 16*s.* per diem from length of service, the charge to the public would be but a trifle; and surely, after a

quarter of a century, a step might almost be claimed. Captains of 1822, by the last Brevet, obtained a step (who hold the same rank). This would make way for the old Assistant-Surgeons I before alluded to.

I also think it would be but an act of justice if his Lordship the Secretary-at-War was to allow such medical officers as had been placed on half-pay, by reduction at the peace, a proportion of the time so spent in their claims for retirement, confined to a certain limit.

I am, Sir, your very obedient servant, &c.

MEDICUS.

April 15, 1838.

C. B. in explanation.

MR. EDITOR,—It does not appear to have occurred to your correspondent, J. C., who, in commenting on my short letter which appeared in your April Number, talks of "oil and vinegar," and "good taste"—giving by that indication of his possessing some acquaintance with the two latter ingredients—that, had you read the passage to which he refers, in the same light in which it appears to have struck him, as he presumes you did, you assuredly never would have given insertion to that letter, that you never would have been induced, by publishing them, to become a party to my *vinegar views*.

May I venture, however, whilst assuring him of the profound deference with which I receive his admonition, to disclaim all such evil intentions as he appears to ascribe to me; and, with regard to any evil consequences likely to result from the rough term in which, in my letter, I made Jack to express his looking down on his non-combatant fellow-seamen, and which I confess to be not quite in accordance with the tee-total ideas of present days, to remind him that our "traders on shore" are far too discriminating to withhold either their good-will or their subscriptions, on account of the bandying of a few rough sailor terms, from a service which, freed from the bane of impressment, will have become to them doubly a source of safety and protection; and farther to refer him, as a case somewhat in point, to any old military officer, who, if I am not greatly mistaken, will tell him that in the old times, in speaking of their non-combatant fellow-soldiers, the term—"Those d—d Militia fellows," was not a very uncommon one amongst lines-men, without, however, its serving in any respect to damp the ardour with which those same fellows volunteered into the *better service*, the line, manifesting on all occasions an emulation which proved to the *old ones* that they were of the same stuff as themselves, or, to interfere in any degree with that good-fellowship which ever existed amongst the higher ranks of the two services.

MR. EDITOR,—In submitting my two short letters to your judgment I believe I distinctly observed, in one of them at least, that my only wish was to bring under the notice of the higher authorities, who would take them for just what they were worth, the few suggestions they contained on a much-mooted subject. I certainly did not contemplate being honoured by the strictures of your correspondent; and I have only to add that, though, like J. C., an old reader of your valuable Journal, I seldom take up my pen—never as a controversialist; and that, should he be disposed to favour me with any farther remarks, he may rest assured of having it all his own way, and of being "left alone in his glory."

C. B.

London, 4th June, 1838.

The Transport System.

MR. EDITOR,—I am confident that most of your readers were gratified at your remarks relative to the Transport Service. It is one of those ini-

quitos jobs which has survived the War. During that period, when our naval force was more nobly employed, there might be some excuse for hired transports being used in the conveyance of troops, and the voyages, in general, were short: but with the termination of hostilities the necessity ceased; yet for twenty-three years have we continued, at an enormous expense, to hire a worthless class of ships, while our men-of-war are rotting in our harbours, and our gallant naval officers in vain seeking employment. In no one respect has the old system of the Transport Service been improved on; the same inconveniences formerly borne with patience in the short runs to Portugal and Spain, have now to be endured in long voyages to the East and West Indies. The Captain and his petty officers are allowed to appropriate to their own use the best accommodation on board, while that set apart for the troops is fitted up in a style very little superior to that of a slaver, and much inferior, in every respect, to that provided by Government for emigrants.

It is notorious that most of the transports are infested with bugs, and every other description of vermin that can render them abominable, and in such quantities as can scarcely be credited, except by the unhappy beings who are doomed to experience this misery in a voyage through the tropics. The comfort and advantages of a troop-ship form a strong contrast to what I have attempted to describe. The cleanliness and free circulation of wholesome air obtained by substituting hammocks for standing berths, is only one (though an important one) of the many improvements introduced. The regularity and order that pervades throughout—the manner in which the arms and accoutrements are kept from injury, yet ready at a moment—and many other conveniences, I could name, render the troop-ship as different from the transport as two vessels employed for the same purpose can be.

Your non-military readers would not credit me were I to enumerate all the misery troops in transports are subject to in long voyages, procrastinated as they usually are, either by the bad sailing qualities of the ship, or the fact, that, as she is paid by the month, the longer she is kept out the better for all concerned, except the passengers. But I hope, with you, that the system has received its death-blow, and that Government has become sufficiently aware of all its enormities—in which case, let bygones be bygones.

Every one aware of the frauds committed in the supply of sea-stock, and the loss sustained by pilfering and bad management, must allow that it would be desirable if officers could be messes as in freight-ships. It would relieve them from much trouble and embarrassment on the eve of embarkation, when they have many important duties to attend to.

A—N.

On the Relief of Regiments serving in India.

MR. EDITOR,—The ardent hopes of many, who have served long under the burning sun of the East, have been grievously depressed by the recent receipt of letters from England, intimating that the existing state of affairs in Canada may interfere with the relief of regiments now serving in India. This would be a most cruel disappointment after the cheering prospect which the Journals have held out; and more especially after the manner, in which the Secretary at War has adverted to the subject before Parliament. To Lord Howick the grateful thanks of the Army are justly due; and we earnestly trust that His Lordship will persevere in the laudable course he has commenced, by which he will merit the highest praise as the soldier's friend. These proposed changes and reliefs, if duly carried into effect, we feel assured will signally improve the morals of our brave soldiers, by keeping their minds alive to the prospect of a return to their native country within a limited period; and that despondence and depres-

sion which propels to drunkenness and crime, destructive of health and life (I could give a fearful list of suicides, mutilations, &c.), will, without doubt, in a great measure disappear. We, therefore, most anxiously trust that nothing of the nature advanced will be permitted to interfere with the projected reliefs, either as regards the Infantry or the Cavalry. We are glad to say that, of the latter arm, the first step has been taken by the relief of the 11th Dragoons. That regiment has gone home in an effective state; and on its reaching England, by receiving the horses of the regiment destined to relieve the 13th, they will at once be efficient for any service; and the same system being pursued, the other regiments will be relieved in succession annually, and with the least possible diminution of that force at home. And surely, Mr. Editor, it will be admitted that these regiments will have had their full share of service and suffering in such a climate? The records in the Medical Board Office will show what devastation disease has made in their ranks. It will be seen, then, that one regiment (the 4th Light Dragoons) lost by deaths in one year 195 men out of 505; and only nine of that number fell in action: all were cut off by disease incidental to the climate, and this exclusive of officers, women, children, and invalids. In other years the loss was 101, and 77, &c., in the same regiment.

Surely, then, it is not too much for regiments that have so suffered, and whose shortest service out of England will be approaching nineteen years—one will be approaching twenty-one years—even by the above plan of relief—to expect that nothing will be allowed to interrupt that most expedient and just course, should more prompt measures not be adopted, to effect their removal; and which made it even confidently stated to be the intention of the authorities to pursue.

India.

This from one of many

CONCERNED.

P.S. By your giving a place for this in your first Number after its receipt (for time is precious in this case) you will greatly oblige, Mr. Editor, many of your readers in the East, who feel most thankful to you for the able manner in which you have advocated the cause of those so long kept in exile, and who hope that you will continue to aid such a just and equitable measure in your valuable Journal till justice is meted out to the unfortunate.

Canteens.

MR. EDITOR.—It is strange that, during a period when exertions are making to introduce temperance into the Army, the Ordnance Department still perseveres in keeping up the barrack canteens on the present system. The revenue arising from the sale of spirits is more than counterbalanced by the ready means afforded the soldier to indulge those habits of excess he is already too prone to.

It is true the regulations prohibit the sale of spirits except at certain hours, but when the interest of the canteen-renter and the inclination of the soldier combine, we all know how readily such regulations can be evaded. That they are so cannot be doubted by any person residing in the larger barracks. In several of the small barracks, usually occupied by depôts, there are no canteens, nor has there been any inconvenience felt in consequence. The trifling articles a soldier requires may be purchased cheaper and better in the shops. The sale of spirits is so profitable to the canteen-renter, that the vending of pipe-clay and blacking is a secondary consideration; yet such articles are kept, as the want of them is a ready excuse to the soldier when found at the canteen at improper hours. If the authorities seriously wish to enforce the system of discipline so strongly recommended to commanding officers, they will give the most effectual aid to it by suppressing the sale of spirits at the canteens, and limiting them to malt liquor; otherwise it is scarcely fair to furnish the soldier with the

ready means to get drunk, and then punish him for not having resolution enough to resist the temptation to do so. A soldier's barrack should be made more attractive to him than it now is, and every inducement held out to him to pass the greater part of his leisure hours within its walls. Our soldiers are young men in the prime of life, and require amusements suitable to their age. "All work and no play" will not do. About a year ago we heard much of the ball-courts that were to be erected in each barrack. Where are they? In the winter season the men are driven to the public-house by the cheerless aspect of their barrack-rooms, devoid both of fire and candle-light. The miserable pittance of fuel allowed is scarcely sufficient for the purpose of cookery, much less to afford them a cheerful fire of a winter's evening, where, in a social circle, the young recruit might derive both amusement and instruction from the veteran's stories of foreign lands and strange people.

It is quite useless in the authorities calling upon officers to repress crime unless there is a liberality on the part of the Government. Many Captains furnish their men with cheap publications, and some regiments have libraries for them, which are invaluable, particularly on foreign stations. But the limited means of officers must confine their assistance to a small scale. Commanding officers are enjoined to form a serjeants' mess, as conducive to the respectability of that rank: yet Government contributes nothing towards it, I believe not even coals or candles. Some annual sum should be allowed to assist such an establishment.

In Ireland, where towns are far distant from each other, the marching money is not commensurate to the wear and tear of the appointments furnished from the soldier's pay. I have known soldiers to march 168 miles in eight days, for which they each receive 2s. 8d., and are probably a pair of shoes and a couple of pair of socks out of pocket.

We all know Lord Hill to be in every respect the soldier's friend, and we have much to regret that his influence is not sufficient to overrule that petty economy which appears to be the order of the day.

Yours, &c.

ANON.

Case of Adjutants.

MR. EDITOR,—Improvement in the condition of Adjutants of Infantry is a subject I have never heard publicly advocated, though no class of military officers is more deserving of encouragement and reward. At present, few accept this appointment but very young and inexperienced officers, or Serjeant-Majors. The former solicit the situation, either from their maiden zeal, love of officiousness, the foppish vanity of being mounted and wearing jingling appointments, or with a view of escaping from some of the disagreeable duties that fall to the lot of the other subalterns. They rarely keep the situation long enough to make good Adjutants, and those who do are, for the most part, married men; and these, from dire necessity, generally make a very shabby appearance with regard to their horse and appointments, curtailing the poor animal's forage, and screwing all they can out of their small allowances. The Adjutants brought from the ranks hardly ever are anything better than mere Serjeant-Majors; very good and zealous men in their way, but fit for nothing but drills in the barrack-square. They rarely give an easy, smart air to the soldiers, or infuse a high feeling amongst them; for a British soldier, however bad his character may happen to be, has an intuitive respect for a gentleman, and looks up to his officer more on this account than for his military attainments. The Serjeant-Major Adjutants are always dreadful sticks in brigade movements, being seldom at their post in proper time.

The difficulty of inducing the older and best-qualified subalterns to accept an Adjutancy arises from the insufficiency of the pay and allow-

ance, both as regards the expense of being well mounted and equipped, as also of making compensation for the sacrifice of their time and temper: for a good and zealous Adjutant must give up most of the former, and the latter must always be under command, in accommodating himself to the various views of his commanding officer, the unpleasant collisions in which he is constantly brought with his brother officers, and the never-ending trouble and watchfulness in keeping up the drill and discipline of the regiment.

The sacrifice of time may, to a person of regular official habits, appear nothing but a man's ordinary duty; but they must bear in mind, that when an officer has been eight or nine years in the Service, attending to nothing but the ordinary duties of a subaltern, and devoting his intervals of leisure to the pleasure of society, light literature, sporting, or other athletic pursuits, it requires a great deal of self-control, or revived military zeal, to induce him at once to renounce this mode of life, and enter upon the vexatious duties of an Adjutant, without any compensation: for, after eight or nine years' service, a Sub has generally 7s. 6d. per day, with the chance of very frequently having charge of a company, so that he is almost always as well off as an Adjutant, without any of the trouble: for the difference of pay and allowance between an Adjutant and seven years' Lieutenant will barely cover the annual expense of farriers' and veterinary bills, the wear and tear of horse appointments, and the keeping up his own creditable appearance, as his uniform is constantly in use. Add to this, sixty pounds outlay for a horse and horse-appointments, which is the lowest sum it can be properly done for, reckoning 40l. for the former, and 20l. for the latter.

Now, with all these expenses and troubles so well known, who but an Ensign or Serjeant-Major would solicit an Adjutancy? In fact, few others ever do; and there is always a difficulty in getting a subaltern of any standing to accept the appointment, unless he be a poor married man, content to ride a mere hack, and regardless of a smart appearance. Some accept it for a few months, thinking it will be a sort of claim for getting unattached promotion.

An Adjutant ought not only to be *au fait* at drill, but should have been long enough in the Service to know the habits and tricks of soldiers, so that he can manage them in a quiet way, without assuming the supercilious air that most of the boy-Adjutants resort to: for, in spite of Lord Hill's order (I believe there is one on the subject), very young officers do get the appointment, and must continue to do so, till an inducement is held out to the older Subs to wish for it; and this can only be done by increasing the pay, which ought at least to be 10s. 6d. per day, independent of horse-allowance.

The Paymasters, Medical Officers, and Quarter-Masters have all lately gained pecuniary advantages. Surely the Adjutants are equally deserving, for they, like the Medical Officers, are, as it were, never off duty. I trust some influential person will take this matter into consideration; for the most hard-working officers in the Army are surely worthy of remuneration, which, as I have shown, is at present, to the most deserving, by no means the case.

DRILL.

Regimental Medical Inspections.

MR. EDROU.—Permit me to call the attention of your readers to a practice connected with the Medical Department of the Army—*De inspectione virilium, cui milites temporibus constitutis subjecti sunt, loquor*. No person will deny that this is a violation of natural decorum—no person but feels that it is a revolting business, both for the inspectors and the men. Many of these men are very young; some are *impuberes*; a few certainly are of chaste habits; none, it is presumable, utterly brutalized. I have reason to be-

lieve that amongst army surgeons dislike of this wholesale investigation, which occurs every week, universally prevails; and that civil practitioners, who may be officiating *pro tempore*, are particularly disgusted. Indeed, it is at all times a difficult matter, on this account, for a regimental surgeon to procure the services of a civilian. It is moreover unjust and ungenerous to treat all the men of a regiment alike—to assume that all are disposed to concealment and deception. Will any lover of the profession of arms—will any true friend of the British troops insult them by such a calumniation? As this is written with no querulous sentiments on the military discipline of our admirable Army, with no squeamish affectation, but through an honest desire that brutal indelicacy be not engendered in the breasts of young soldiers, nor the feelings wounded of sober-minded men; so I am hopeful, if any of your readers can suggest a practicable remedy, that this would be adopted with readiness. Might not a severe punishment, undeviatingly inflicted on any soldier, who has concealed disease and is detected, be sufficient?

Your obedient servant,

DEMOCEDUS.

A Grievance in the Case of Married Officers.

MR. EDITOR,—An old saying and a true,—“There is a time for all things;” and at a more favourable crisis than the present I am certain this letter could not be introduced to the notice of those for whom it is intended—a period when Great Britain is ruled by Queen Victoria, England’s pride and glory. Years have elapsed since the reign of our last Queen, and may the present Most Gracious Sovereign reign for ever triumphant!

This letter is written, with a view that it may be so fortunate as to meet the eye of Her Most Gracious Majesty, by one of her loyal subjects, who has served his King and country, he trusts faithfully, for forty years and upwards, and one who requires nothing from Government for himself; and well knowing the subject he is about to introduce to be one of the most harsh measures ever established by Government to that class of men,—the married officers of Her Majesty’s Army,—and which, I hope and trust, will meet with due and favourable consideration from her royal hands.

I allude to a general order published in the Addenda to the General Regulations and Orders to the Army, No. 410, Horse Guards, 8th April, 1824, page 432, line 13; by which the unfortunate officers of the Army being married are totally deprived of the benefit of receiving the regulated difference, if compelled to retire on half-pay, from either severe wounds, long services, old age, or a broken constitution, caused by protracted services in an unhealthy tropical climate or otherwise, by which means the very best days of their lives become a sacrifice. Are these very men to be deprived of this indulgence by that cruel order—an order devoid of common humanity? And why? Because he happens to be a married man.

How an order so uncalled for should have ever existed is strange beyond doubt. A moment’s consideration will show to any person the great injustice—a moment’s thought must show the error in judgment in framing so cruel an order—as cruel I must designate it. Common sense will tell any person that, at the period when the worn-out and broken-down veteran is compelled, with reluctance, to retire from a profession which has ever been his pride, he requires pecuniary assistance most—the decline of life, perhaps on the very verge of the grave. Is this the time to deprive that veteran of an indulgence which others who are unmarried participate in? No married man with the feelings he should possess would take the regulated difference if compelled to retire on half-pay, with the prospect that, in the event of his doing so, his unfortunate widow would be deprived of

Her Most Gracious Majesty's pension, and his children deprived in like manner of the compassionate allowance, and perhaps left for ever destitute, by being excluded this royal bounty. I cannot do better here than by giving the public an extract of the order in question, viz.:—"Married officers retiring upon half-pay, receiving the regulated difference, forfeit all claim to the pension for their widows, and to compassionate allowance for their children." Surely the extent of this order could have never been contemplated or considered to correspond with the wants or feelings of the veteran soldier, who had passed his best days in the service, and, perhaps fought and bled for his king and country. I do, therefore, most fervently hope her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria may be pleased to give her Royal consideration to this statement of plain facts, when she may rest satisfied her loyal subjects will ever pray for her health, happiness, and long life.

I will here conclude with a hope that our young and amiable Queen will be pleased to consider an order which common humanity calls on, to redress a grievance so great as married officers of her Royal Army are subject to, and remain,

Mr. Editor,

Yours, much obliged,

A GENERAL OFFICER in Her Majesty's Service,
and a Subscriber to your Journal.

Sen. U. S. Club-House.

On Raising the Prospects of Soldiers.

MR. EDITOR,—Much discussion has lately taken place, in all circles, both civil and military, in regard to raising the character of the soldiers of the British Army, and many new regulations respecting their mode of discipline, nature of punishments, &c., have been enforced to attain this end. New regulations in the pension warrants, and claims to increase of pay, as well as the power of taking away that increase, have also been adopted, with a view of encouraging the well-disposed, or punishing the reckless, refractory characters. These attempts have in some cases been successful, but they have not, in general, made a good impression on the soldiers, for the advantages held out to them for regularity of behaviour are not only very insignificant in themselves, but the attainment of them is so remote, and requires such a long period of almost immaculate conduct, that a young soldier, on being informed of what is expected of him, during his uncertain and for the most part wearisome and exiled service, at once despairs of ever being the regular and considerate character that the warrant holding out reward of good conduct requires he should be; consequently he recklessly resolves to enjoy himself, whilst he has health and inclination, in utter despair of at all times being steady enough to entitle him to the promised boon, or thinking it too paltry, or distant, to be worth years of self-denial.

With a view now of holding out a more immediate prospect of reward to the well-conducted soldiers of the Army, and to keep up a spirit of emulation amongst the well-disposed men, I propose that the privilege of serving in the Guards should be the prospect held out, and, to render a soldier eligible to this service, the following regulations, or something of the kind more maturely considered, may serve as a guide to the system I wish to see introduced:—

1st. To be eligible to serve in the Guards, a soldier must have been seven years in the Line, have never been convicted by a Court-Martial, and, besides, have a general good character from his Commanding Officer, and not exceed thirty years of age: his height to be no consideration, for a man fit for the arduous service of the Line is capable of any military duty; and it is moreover well known that the big men are not the hardest:

a tried soldier of this kind, on being admitted into the Guards, to receive at once 1d. per day extra.

2nd. In each monthly return sent to the Horse-Guards from the regiments of the line, a column to be appropriated to the number of men eligible for the Guards.

3rd. A nominal roster to be kept in each regiment of the men eligible, so that they may be sent to the Guards in rotation.

4th. As men are wanted in the Guards, proportionate selections to be made at the Horse-Guards from all the regiments of the Army, beginning at No. 1, till each has given some, and so over again.

5th. The recruiting for the Guards ultimately to cease, and these regiments to be composed only of the tried soldiers of the Army.

6th. The increase of pay to the seven-years well-behaved soldiers received into the Guards, to be in excess of any pecuniary advantages the Guards may at present possess above the Line.

7th. A soldier received into the Guards from the Line, and afterwards becoming a bad character, to be sent back to his former regiment; and, in addition to any punishment his conduct may subject him to, to be deprived of his extra pay, and have no claim to its restoration till seven years' further probation, according to Rule No. 1.

14th March, 1838.

J. R.

REVIEWS AND CRITICAL NOTICES.

REMARKS ON MAJOR HEAD'S LIFE OF BRUCE, BY COLONEL WARRINGTON, CONSUL AT TRIPOLI.

WE have only space and time this month, pressed as we are to anticipate the Coronation Holidays, to insert the following critical comments, by a most competent and practical authority, on a work treating of Eastern Travel. The remarks of Colonel Warrington may be of material service to travellers in Africa.

MR. EDITOR,—By accident I have just taken up the Life of Bruce, the African traveller, by Major F. B. Head, from which I extract the following:—

"The tact with which Bruce worms his way through the various difficulties that oppose him, softening the most rigid prejudices, and often managing to convert barbarous enmity into disinterested friendship, will appear through the whole of his travels; and we cannot now refrain from remarking how ill-advised poor Denham surely was to attempt to penetrate Africa by going against this stream, dressing himself in the mean, detested garments of a European. Denham says, 'We were the first English travellers in Africa who had resisted the persuasion that a disguise was necessary, and who had determined to travel in our real character as Britons and Christians, and to wear on all occasions our English dresses;' and what was the result? 'What do you here?' said some women who accosted him; 'you are a Kaffir Khaleel! It is you Christians, with the blue eyes like the hyæna, that eat the blacks whenever you can get them far enough away from their own country!' 'God deliver me from his evil eye!' said a young girl. 'He is,' cried another, 'an uncircumcised Kaffir; neither washes nor prays; eats pork, and will go to hell.' 'Turn him out,' said the Cadi; 'God forbid that any one who has eaten with Christians should give evidence in the laws of Mohamed!' 'Oh! oh! the Lord preserve us from the infernal devil!' they all exclaimed; and screaming, 'Y-hy-yo, y-hy-yo!' they all ran off in the greatest alarm."—(Denham, vol. ii. p. 40.)

"Some years ago the Bey of Tripoli, who gave permission to Captain

Smyth, R.N., and Mr. Warrington, to excavate, explore, and carry away the ruins of ancient Septis, made the following replies to Captain Smyth and the British Consul, who officially waited upon him to ask his advice as to the best mode of getting into the interior of Africa:—

"Q.—Does your Highness imagine it difficult for a party to reach the Nile (Niger) through the dominions of your friend the King of Bournou?"

"A.—Not the least; the road to Bournou is as beaten as that to Bengazi.

"Q.—Will your Highness grant protection to a party wishing to proceed that way?"

"A.—Any person wishing to go in that direction (it was the very same route which Denham took), I will send an embassy to Bournou to escort him thither; and from thence the King will protect him to the Nile. But I must first clothe him like a Turk.

"Q.—Will he not be subject to much troublesome inquiry on that head?"

"A.—No; but he must not say he is a Christian: people in the interior are very ignorant.

"It is with painful reluctance that we have paused for a moment in Bruce's history to make the above observations; but the advice which was given to poor Denham and his gallant companions may be again given to others; and as the proper mode of penetrating Africa is a most important problem, in which the lives of future travellers are involved, we only beg the reader henceforward to observe the effect which Bruce's plan of attack produces, and then to judge for himself whether the traveller who wishes to penetrate Africa should publicly proclaim himself 'a Briton and a Christian,' or not. That he should inwardly be both, no one, we hope, will deny; yet religion, like loyalty, need not vauntingly be displayed; and as we know that the African abhors and despises both our religion and our dress, why should we irritate his prejudices by wilfully unfurling these flags of defiance?"

Now, it is well known that the expedition of Oudney, Denham, and Clapperton, was chiefly under my direction and advice; and still I am of opinion that, the members of the mission alluded to having gone as Christians, their success was alone attributable to it. On the arrival of those travellers not one word of the Arabic language could they speak; how could they, therefore, be taken for Moslems? *The Bashaw advised them to go as Christians, and in the character of Englishmen*; and, as he was given a sum of money to guarantee their safety, surely his advice would have some weight. They penetrated into the interior with a large establishment; therefore how was it possible that they could have deceived the most ignorant of the Arabs into the belief that they were Mohamedans merely because they wore the Arab dress?

Clapperton addressed a letter to me on his return (which is at the Colonial Office) of the most satisfactory and complimentary nature, attributing the entire success of the mission to the advice I gave them to go as Englishmen and Christians; and surely he ought to have been a good judge if poor Denham had been ill-advised or not. As to some old women (for young do not show themselves), and a bigoted Kadi, having abused them, if that is all they had to complain of in the distance of two thousand miles, where Christian foot never before trod, I think they had nothing to complain of.

I do not call to my recollection the questions and answers of the Bashaw to Captain Smyth and myself; but, supposing they are correct, I must observe that the Bashaw's opinion was altered at the time of the mission alluded to, probably because he saw, as well as every one else, how detrimental it was to the Moorzouk mission assuming the religion of the coun-

try, and even going to the Moslem mosque, and praying (or pretending to pray) for the intercession of the Prophet Mohamed. Surely hypocrisy is bad enough at all times, but much more so when religion is subservient to it. When the people found the travellers were not likely to become converts, and that they had been humbugged, *I recollect well what they said*; and, in my opinion, that was the reason they were not allowed to penetrate beyond Mourzook. I have seen Christians, contrary to all advice, attire themselves in the costume of Moors, with English portmanteaus, stirrups, and spurs, and without being able to speak one word of Arabic; surely, therefore, they could not have deceived any one.

The mendicant traveller, who has to depend on the hospitality and charitable alms from the inmates of the Arab tent, does well to go in their character; but then he ought to be able to play his part so as to prevent his being discovered an impostor. Had the mission of Oudney, Denham, and Clapperton added another to the numerous failures, there might be an excuse for terming it "*ill-advised*;" but when success and the preservation of life were united, surely it is saying too much.

I could name a Christian traveller who, in a case of the greatest emergency, had presence of mind to give convincing proof he was no Mohamedan, and by which he saved his life. After a term of twenty-four years, and having devoted much attention to the mode of exploring the interior, I may be allowed to give an opinion; and should the British Government ever again send a mission by way of Tripoli, *under the guarantee of the Bashaw*, I strenuously advise them to retain their religion, character, and dress of Englishmen, and in no way mix themselves with an army for the capture of black slaves. The Moors and Arabs visit the interior to carry away the husband from the wife, the wife from the husband, and the child from the parents; therefore, in the name of common sense, why should the Arab be more liked than the benevolent Christian, whose object is for the benefit of mankind, and to emancipate those suffering people from the horrors of slavery?

I have the honour to be, &c.

H. WARRINGTON.

Tripoli, Jan. 30, 1838.

NOTICES TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

THE expediency of anticipating the holidays of the Coronation week having compelled us to close our labours many days earlier this month, we have been obliged to omit our Port Letters, which had not arrived in time, as well as the Communications of Colonel Mitchell, Colonel Lightfoot, &c., with a variety of Letters, Critical Notices, and other matter, which we must endeavour to bring up next month.

We beg our Contributors and Correspondents to understand the difficulty under which we labour with regard to space, in a great measure owing to the prolonged professional controversies carried on through our pages, frequently to the exclusion of other expectants, who are, doubtless, disposed to blame us, and not the circumstances by which we are unavoidably controlled;—added to which, it is anything but easy, even with our liberal limits, to find room for the extent and variety of communications with which we are honoured from every quarter of the globe. We fully rely, therefore, on the consideration of our friends to whom it may be out of our power to address special notices.

F. in our next.

EDITOR'S PORTFOLIO; OR, NAVAL AND MILITARY REGISTER.

AFFAIRS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

THE Coronation of the Queen, which will have taken place on the 28th ult., shall be duly recorded in our next.

Amongst the distinguished individuals destined to represent their respective Courts on the above occasion, the members of the United Service naturally take most interest in Marshal Soult, the Ambassador from France. This eminent soldier arrived at Woolwich at one o'clock on the night of the 19th—20th June, in a French Government steamer, and after a few hours' repose, landed early at Woolwich, where he was received, and, with his suite, temporarily accommodated by Lieut.-Col. Dansey, R.A., the Field-Officer on duty. On proceeding to town the Marshal expressed his satisfaction at the attentive reception he had experienced on his arrival at Woolwich at so unseasonable an hour. He appears a fine old soldier, but is infirm from the effects of a wound in the leg, received at the siege of Genoa nearly forty years ago.

Our notice of the Nelson and Wellington memorials must be very brief this month. It is sufficient to state that their progress is highly satisfactory, and the measures for their accomplishment have met with general approval, with the exception of one appointment, which, without any invidious intention, we must concur in disapproving, as premature, at least, if not altogether unsuitable: we allude to the arbitrary nomination, by a portion of the Committee, of Mr. Matthew Wyatt, an architect, as the sculptor of the equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington, with which it is proposed to surmount the noble arch, by Mr. Decimus Burton, facing Apsley-House. No more appropriate or commanding site could have been selected for so honourable a testimonial of England's pride in her great Captain; and the selection of the artist by whom so interesting and important a record is to be executed is not, we conceive, an affair to be lightly decided on. We have seen and known sufficient of the surpassing genius and truly liberal spirit of Sir Francis Chantrey, and the high qualifications of Sir Richard Westmacott, to convince us, in common we believe with the great majority of our comrades and countrymen, that these eminent men ought not to have been excluded, by partiality or *punctilio*, from competition, at least, in this case. We trust the unpopular appointment of Mr. Wyatt—excellent, no doubt, in his proper sphere—is not irrevocable.

A List of Subscriptions to the Nelson Monument lies for signature at the *United Service Museum*, in pursuance of an understanding at the last General Meeting of that Institution.

A Brevet—the longer the better, but better short than none at all—is anxiously hoped for by the Services. The prospective results of the Commission of Inquiry ought not, in fairness, to affect present claims; and the festive epoch of a Coronation, heralding, as we trust, a long and prosperous reign, should not be dimmed by just discontent on the part of the firmest upholders of the British Crown.

It is of special importance to the interests of the Service at the present moment to offer every well-considered suggestion for the promotion and general benefit of its members. The measures of the authorities, and the deliberations of the Commission of Enquiry, cannot fail to be aided by the practical hints and plans of the parties concerned; and it is with this view and hope that we submit the following scheme of promotion, drawn up by an experienced officer, whose lamented decease a few months back removes any necessity for withholding his name—we allude to Major Banner, late of the 93rd.

A Plan by which a Brevet might be granted to benefit nearly 1700 Officers in the Army, and at the same time effect a considerable annual saving to the country.

	Annual Expense.
2 Generals to the rank of Field-Marshal.	
67 Lieutenant-Generals, whose commissions are dated previous to 1830, to the rank of General.	
40 Major-Generals, whose commissions are dated previous to 1830, to the rank of Lieutenant-General	
100 Colonels, whose commissions are dated previous to 1831, to the rank of Major-General.	
2 Colonels of the above number, being Regimental Lieutenant-Colonels on full-pay of the Foot Guards, would be entitled, according to existing regulations, to 600 <i>l.</i> each per annum	£1,200
2 ditto ditto, Regimental Majors in the Foot Guards, at 550 <i>l.</i> each per annum	1,100
3 ditto ditto, Regimental Lieutenant-Colonels on full-pay of Cavalry, at 552 <i>l.</i> each per annum	1,566
2 Colonels of Horse Artillery, at 590 <i>l.</i> each per annum	1,180
12 Colonels of Artillery and Engineers, at 479 <i>l.</i> each per annum	5,748
79 Colonels of Infantry and Marines, at 400 <i>l.</i> each per annum	31,600
122 Lieutenant-Colonels, whose commissions are dated previous to 1827, to the rank of Colonel.	
120 Majors, whose commissions are dated previous to 1827, to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.	
126 Captains at present serving on full-pay, whose commissions are dated previous to 1826, to the rank of Major, but as the additional pay of 2 <i>s.</i> per day to each of the 11 Brevet Majors who are Captains in the Artillery and Engineers would cease on their succeeding to the 11 Lieutenant-Colonelcies that would become vacant by the promotion of the 11 Colonels belonging to those corps, likewise 8 in the Infantry and 11 in the Cavalry, the present number of Officers, with Brevet rank on full pay, who are entitled to the allowance, would only be increased 96, which, at 2 <i>s.</i> per diem each, would amount per annum to the sum of	3,504
As there are only 72 Colonels receiving Lieutenant-Colonel's half-pay of the 100 proposed to be made Major-Generals, the remainder being on full-pay, the amount of annual half-pay for 28 Lieutenant-Colonels, who would be added to the half-pay list by 100 Majors being appointed to Lieutenant-Colonelcies unattached, after deducting 5475 <i>l.</i> , the amount of the annual half-pay of the 100 Ensigns suggested to be recalled to full-pay, would be	146
40 Regimental Majors, of old standing on full-pay, to be promoted to Lieutenant-Colonelcies unattached, without purchase, and to be replaced by the same number from half-pay of those recently promoted, paying the regulated difference, viz., 947 <i>l.</i> each. The increase of half-pay by such an arrangement would be for each 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per day, or per annum for the 40	1,095
100 Brevet-Majors on full-pay to be promoted to Majorities, unattached, without purchase, and to be replaced by the same number of Captains, recently promoted, paying the regulated difference, viz., 511 <i>l.</i> each: the increase of expense to the country by such an arrangement would be for each 6 <i>d.</i> per day, or per annum for the 100	912
Carried forward	£48,051

Brought forward	£48,051
100 Lieutenants on full-pay, to be promoted to companies, unattached, without purchase, and to be replaced by the same number from half-pay of those recently promoted, paying the regulated differences, viz., 365 $\frac{1}{2}$ each, the increase of half-pay by such an arrangement would be for each 3s. per day, or per annum for the 100	5,475
Total amount of annual expense	£53,526
The funds for indemnifying the country for the expense incurred by a Brevet might be produced by permitting 100 Majors, at present on full-pay, to purchase unattached Lieutenant-Colonels, each paying the regulated difference between a Majority and Lieutenant-Colonelcy, viz., 1300 $\frac{1}{2}$., and replacing those Majors by the same number from half-pay, which would produce*	130,000
By permitting 100 Captains, at present on full-pay, to purchase unattached Majorities, each paying the regulated difference between a Company and a Majority, viz., 1400 $\frac{1}{2}$., and replacing those Captains by the same number from the half-pay, which would produce	140,000
By permitting 100 Lieutenants, at present on full-pay, to purchase unattached companies, each paying the regulated difference between a Lieutenantancy and Company, viz., 1100 $\frac{1}{2}$., and replacing those Lieutenants by the same number from the half-pay, which would produce	110,000
By permitting 1000 Ensigns, on full-pay, to purchase unattached Lieutenantancies, each paying the regulated difference, viz., 250 $\frac{1}{2}$., and replacing those Ensigns by the same number from the half-pay, which would produce†	25,000
As Lord Hill stipulates with Officers who are permitted to purchase unattached commissions, that they should pay the difference to be restored to full-pay in place of old Officers being selected for promotion, the following sums would, therefore, be received, to be placed to the credit of the country:—	
From 40 Majors 949 $\frac{1}{2}$ each	37,880
From 100 Captains 1100 $\frac{1}{2}$ each	51,100
From 100 Lieutenants 365 $\frac{1}{2}$ each	36,500
Total proceeds of the commissions proposed to be sold, &c.	£530,480

The proceeds of the sale of the commissions above-mentioned to be at the disposal of the Government; and as it appears by the abstract of a return attached to this statement, that the annual half-pay of 857 Officers, amounting to 58,745 $\frac{1}{2}$., was cancelled by the payment of 374,064 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15s. 7d., consequently, if the sum of 530,480 $\frac{1}{2}$., the amount of the proceeds of commissions to be sold were similarly appropriated 83,309 $\frac{1}{2}$ annual half-pay would be cancelled, from which, deducting the Brevet, &c., there would remain an annual saving to the country of 29,783 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Number of Officers that would be benefited by the proposed Brevet:—

- 817 Officers promoted without purchase.
- 400 Officers promoted by purchase.
- 400 Officers brought from the half to full pay without paying the difference.

1,617 Carried forward.

* Officers on half-pay would thus have a prospect of retiring from the Service without degradation; but according to the present regulations no officer on half-pay can dispose of his commission unless he consents in fact to be transported to New South Wales or some such colony: for he must, before he is permitted to receive the regulated value of his commission, declare that he means to become a settler in some of the colonies.

† In case a sufficient number of Ensigns on the half-pay could not be found willing to return to the Service, to fill the vacancies created by these suggested to be promoted, the requisite number of Ensigncies might be sold, and the proceeds credited to the public, which would be more than equivalent to the value of the half-pay of those Ensigns who wish not to be recalled.

1,617 Promotions in the Artillery and Engineers.

- 11 Lieutenant-Colonels to be Colonels.
- 11 Captains to be Lieutenant-Colonels.
- 11 Second-Captains to be First-Captains.
- 11 First-Lieutenants to be Second-Captains.
- 11 Second-Lieutenants to be First-Lieutenants.
- 11 Cadets to be Second-Lieutenants.

1,683

Also the following appointments:—

- 2 Lieutenant-Colonelcies in the Foot Guards.
- 2 Majorities in do. do.
- 3 Lieutenant-Colonelcies in Cavalry.
- 10 Lieutenant-Colonelcies in Regiments of the Line.

Number of General and Field-Officers on the 1st of September, 1837.

Field-Mmarshals	4
Generals	105
Lieutenant-Generals	172
Major-Generals	186
Colonels	355
Lieutenant-Colonels	685
Majors	706

Total . . . 2,213

Number of General and Field-Officers in the event of the above plan being adopted.

Field-Mmarshals	6
Generals	170
Lieutenant-Generals	145
Major-Generals	246
Colonels	377
Lieutenant-Colonels	823
Majors	812

Total . . . 2,579

Abstract of a Return of Commissions in the Army which have been purchased, and the Half-Pay cancelled, up to the 1st of April, 1833.

RANK.	Number of each Rank.	Annual Amount of Half Pay cancelled			Amount of Purchase-Money paid for each Rank.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Majors	1	200	0	0	1,200	0	0
Captains	18	2,357	10	0	16,573	6	8
Captain Lieutenants	1	51	18	0	330	0	0
Lieutenants	378	27,177	7	6	189,273	8	0
Second Lieutenants	10	511	0	0	3,400	0	0
Ensigns	258	13,429	19	0	88,598	11	4
Cornets	29	1,703	6	8	10,730	0	0
Adjutants	8	565	18	0	3,000	0	0
Paymasters	14	1,733	18	0	12,020	0	0
Quarter Masters	21	1,204	10	0	7,550	0	0
Chaplains	1	60	16	8	300	0	0
Assistant Deputy-Paymaster-General	1	136	17	6	1,100	0	0
Deputy Judge Advocate	1	365	0	0	1,600	0	0
Physician	1	182	10	0	1,000	0	0
Staff Surgeons	8	1,022	0	0	4,710	0	0
Assistant Surgeons	82	5,830	17	6	22,221	11	8
Apothecaries	2	182	10	0	745	0	0
Hospital Assistants	11	401	10	0	1,165	16	8
Veterinary Surgeons	1	100	7	0	678	0	0
	657	58,754	17	9	374,064	15	7

War-Office, April 16,

(Signed)

EDWARD ELlice,

TO THE MIXED COMMISSION ON ARMY AND NAVY AFFAIRS.

MR. EDITOR.—The address agreed to on Lord George Lennox's motion in the House of Commons last February having elicited from Lord John Russell the considerate feeling entertained by the present Government in behalf of the hard-worked and worn-out veterans of the United Service, by the announcement of a commission to be appointed for the purpose of taking their claims for retirement, &c., into consideration, and doing tardy justice to those no longer, from age and infirmities, calculated for the performance of active military duties; I am induced to offer a few hurried observations, in addition to those contained in my letter on "Brevet Rank and Military Retirement," and inserted in your Journal of December

last.

The existing orders, regulating the sale of commissions, half-pay retirements, &c. &c., being in their working so anomalous and inconsistent, holding out, in fact, a *premium* to the young, instead of the old officer, would, to do equal justice to all classes, require a thorough revision. At present, or according to the existing regulations, there are three modes of retiring from the Service,—by the sale of commissions, or retiring on the half-pay list, with the regulated difference (thereby foregoing all claims for widows' pensions, &c.), or without this equivalent. Until within the last few years every officer, whether he served *three* or *thirty* years, was indiscriminately permitted to retire on the half, or more properly speaking, *two-thirds* of their full-pay: indeed many individuals are at *this time* borne on the list who purchased ensigncies for the sole purpose of investing their 450*l.* to much better account than through any other channel. Others again, after *two* and *three* years' service on full-pay, have been on the half-pay list for the last *twelve* years, and as Captains, thus deriving in their youth, and without any *adequate* service, all the *military income* a veteran of thirty or forty years' hard work of the same rank can possibly look forward to. Common sense will at once decide on the glaring injustice of such a system of rewards, and see the necessity of substituting regulations, having for their basis equal justice to all ranks, with a reference to the *bonâ fide* services rendered to the country by the applicant claiming retirement; and, following out this equitable view of the question, I should propose that, on the retirement of an officer from the Service, whether by the sale of his commission, or half or retired full pay, there should be a graduated scale, varying in value with due regard to the *bonâ fide* services of the individual thus retiring. In the following scales there is no column for services under seven years—no individual, unless recommended by a medical board, to claim any remuneration.

Should he quit the service before the expiry of the above number of years, to avoid prolixity also, the scales or tables are only here applied to the rank of Captain, the other ranks bearing the same proportion with regard to services, &c.

Graduated Scale awarding an allowance to Officers permitted to retire without receiving the regulated difference.

Over 7 Yrs., and under 10 Yrs.	Over 10 Yrs., and under 15 Yrs.	Over 15 Yrs., and under 20 Years.	Over 20 Years, and under 25 Years.	Over 25 Yrs., and under 30 Yrs.	30 Years' Service.
One-fourth of former Full-Pay.	One-third of former Full-Pay.	Half-Pay.	Two-thirds, or what is the ex- isting rate of Half-Pay.	Three-fourths of former Full-Pay.	Full-Pay for Life.

In addition to the above. A Graduated Scale of the allowance granted to officers who may be permitted, after twenty years' service, to retire on half-pay, receiving a difference, and thereby forfeiting all prospective claims on the country for their widows, &c.

20 Years' Service to entitle the Applicant to	£ 300
21 Years' do. do.	350
22 Years' do. do.	400
23 Years' do. do.	450
24 Years' do. do.	500
25 Years' do. do.	550
26 Years' do. do.	600
27 Years' do. do.	650
28 Years' do. do.	700
29 Years' do. do.	750
30 Years' do. do.	800

To meet the foregoing scale, those candidates paying this difference on coming upon full-pay should be called to make it up, with due regard to their former services, as follows:—

12 Years' Service, having purchased unattached Rank, to pay £ 300 difference.	
11 Years' do. do.	350
10 Years' do. do.	400
9 Years' do. do.	450
8 Years' do. do.	500
7 Years' do. do.	550
6 Years' do. do.	600
5 Years' do. do.	650
4 Years' do. do.	700
3 Years' do. do.	750
2 Years' do. do.	800

In the last scale, all officers now borne upon the Half-Pay List, and who entered the Army since the 28th of June, 1815, or subsequent to the peace of 1815, are supposed to be called upon to serve (having, with few exceptions, purchased unattached rank), paying a difference on returning to full-pay, varying in amount according to their former services; or, if they should prefer it, receive a commuted allowance for their half-pay commissions, varying also in amount, every year after the first three, increasing the value of the commission thus commuted. In the same way, all promotion purchased should vary according to the services of the purchaser, *i. e.* the purchasing candidate with the *minimum* service paying the *maximum* price, and *vice versa*; thus, for instance, the Lieutenant, if purchasing after a service of twelve or fifteen years paying the *minimum*; while the Lieutenant of two or three years' service should be made to pay the *maximum*. The officer retiring from the service by the sale of his commission in like manner receive a sum in exact proportion to the number of years served, without any reference being had to the amount he originally paid for such commission. This would do away with jobbing, and compel the idler or lounge, who now comes into the Army to amuse himself for a year or two, either to serve as a soldier ought to do, or sacrifice a proportion of his purchase-money.

For the purpose of giving due effect to the above plan, a general fund should be formed from the produce of all commissions, to be placed at the disposal of the Secretary-at-War, and from which funds (and not, as heretofore, from the individual returning to full-pay or purchasing) all officers retiring from the service, either by sale or otherwise, should receive the amount, to be regulated by Government for such individual's services.

If the purchase system is continued—and continued it must be—the value of commissions ought to be raised. In such a country as Great Britain, with its wealth, the demand will in no way be diminished.

Should a brevet rank be determined upon, on the auspicious coronation of her Gracious Majesty, it is to be hoped the old officers, who have uninterruptedly served their country in all quarters of the globe, for twenty, thirty, and forty years, will not, as hitherto, be passed over, while hundreds upon the Half-pay List are reaping the hard-earned harvest of those serving. It would, surely, be but equity to give the rank of Captain to every Subaltern who has served twenty years on full-pay, with the addition of 1s. to his pay on obtaining the rank; the rank of Major, in like manner, to every Captain of thirty years; and that of Lieutenant-Colonel after thirty-five years to Majors.

I maintain all these improvements can be effected with but little additional expense to the country; indeed, considering the age and services of those who would benefit by it (for it must be always borne in mind that such is the wear and tear of a soldier's constitution, that ten years may be calculated upon in addition to his actual age, when compared to the civilian), in the progress of a few years, by the substitution of old for comparatively young annuitants, the charges for this branch of the service would in reality be decreased.

Let but the Commission sift into these matters, and call for information from regimental officers, calculated from their services and intelligence to aid by their evidence their proceedings, and I have no doubt as to the favourable result—were Hume in person to preside.

Trusting I have taken equity as my guide in the foregoing observations, I live in hopes they may be deemed worthy of a place in your useful and universally-read Miscellany.

I remain, Mr. Editor,

Your obliged servant,

Halifax, N. S., May 10, 1838.

AN OLD "LINESMAN."

John Martin Hanchett, late a Post-Captain in Her Majesty's Royal Navy, humbly claims of the Board or Commission appointed to consider of and equalise the advantages of the Army and Navy, in justice to his late brother and other commissioned officers of Her Majesty's Navy, that the commissions of naval officers should be signed by the Sovereign; so that no naval officer on half-pay can be erased from the list of the Navy except by the consent and authority of the Sovereign; and that, before the report shall be sent to recommend an officer's deprivation from the rank he in general so dearly earns, there should be a board of officers, superior in rank to the accused, to investigate the charge against him, within *one month* of such accusation or supposed delinquency being known to the Admiralty, under the following regulations:—

That the charge against him be delivered to such officer in person, allowing him a reasonable time, to be therein mentioned, not less than one week, from such his personal receipt thereof, for the giving his answer thereto.

His answer being received, due notice is to be given him, and to his accuser, to attend on such day as shall be judged proper, for the hearing them, *publicly, face to face*, if they can conveniently appear together (if not, that the accuser shall make oath of his charge), directing them to bring, at the same time, such witnesses or other evidence as they shall be able to produce on one side and the other, in support of the allegations in the charge and answer respectively.

And in case any person (though not produced by either party) shall appear capable of giving further evidence, the attendance of such witness is to be procured.

And if any doubtful point of law arise, the Board shall have authority to refer it to the opinion of the law officers of the Crown, or to that of the Twelve Judges.

As a naval commissioned officer has not the same advantage as the military officer, that of being allowed to sell his commission for the benefit of his family, as is frequently allowed to military officers in mitigation of punishment; and whereas the widow and children of naval officers are totally deprived of their future subsistence by his being erased from the Navy List, your humble petitioner feels justified in pressing this just and equitable regulation on the consideration of the Commission.

The treatment of your humble petitioner is one amongst very many instances why such an act of justice, founded on the constitutional law of the realm, should be recommended to Her Majesty. Your petitioner having distinguished himself, and having been wounded frequently during the late war, proposed and succeeded in establishing the Coast Guard, which, whilst it is eminently useful in protecting the revenue from smuggling, gives employment to more than 400 naval commissioned officers, who are subject to the same usage as himself.

Your petitioner was *accused* of having committed a breach of an Act of Parliament, alluding to a conversation which took place *eleven months* before, and was known to the Secretary *all that time*.

The Secretary ordered depositions to be taken against him, a copy or even a sight of which were refused him; and it was not until fifteen years after his removal that he procured a copy of the depositions made against him (*not on oath*), and although one of the most material deponents has never been called upon to furnish his, Her Majesty's present Attorney-General has given his legal opinion, deduced from the depositions of his enemies, one of whom was to have succeeded to his appointment,—“That there was not any consummated offence against the Act of Parliament.”

Your petitioner was then delivered over to * * * * * Mr. Secretary Lushington, to transmit papers to the Admiralty Board, selected entirely by Mr. Secretary Lushington, whom your petitioner was at that time accusing in Parliament.

In consequence of these papers, which your petitioner never has been allowed to see, although he has repeatedly claimed such a right, your petitioner was deprived of his naval rank, and has never since had granted to him an audience either from any First Lord of the Treasury or the Admiralty to explain his case.

So that had every military officer who has *contemplated*, much more given or received a large sum for the sale and purchase of a commission (than regulated by the act of Parliament), been cashiered or struck off the list, very many brave and honourable officers would have been lost to the service of their country.

Your humble petitioner, therefore, supplicates your Commission to recommend the adoption of his above proposal; and, should Her Gracious Majesty be pleased to approve it, that your petitioner may be the *first* to have the advantage of such an investigation, by the result of which he will most thankfully abide.—For which your petitioner will, as in duty bound, for ever pray.

JOHN MARTIN HANCHETT.

London, June 12, 1838.

It will be seen, by a reference to our Distribution of the Army this month, that the Secretary-at-War is resolved to fairly carry out the Rotation System. The destination of the 52nd Regiment, and the changes it involves, will illustrate this circle of service.

EAST INDIA COMPANY'S MILITARY SEMINARY, ADDISCOMBE.

A public examination was held at this Institution on Monday the 11th of June, in the presence of the Chairman, Major-General Sir James Lushington, K.C.B., the Deputy Chairman, Richard Jenkins, Esq., M.P., a considerable number of the Members of the Court, and many illustrious and distinguished individuals, including their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Prince George of Cambridge; Lieutenant-Generals Lord Bloomfield, Sir Jasper Nicholls, and Lord James Hay; Major-Generals Sir R. Houstoun, Sir C. Deacon, Sir J. O'Halloran, T. Stewart, Cleiland, Adye (R.A.); Brigadier-General Taylor; Colonels Sir John May (R.A.), Sir C. Hopkinson, Patterson, Rogers (R.A.), Lindsay, Pasley (C.B.), Taylor (R.M. College), Dyce, Sombre, and Sandwith, &c. &c.

After a careful investigation the Public Examiner, Major-General Sir A. Jackson, K.C.B., was enabled to bring forward twenty-six Gentlemen Cadets for examination, five of whom were selected for the Artillery, viz., John William Fraser, Alexander Christie, Charles Vyvyan Cox, Craven Hildesley Dickens, Henry Hammond; and twenty-one for the Infantry Service, in the order expressed in the following list, viz., George Walter Cuninghame, Henry Shepherd Money, Thomas Charles Henry D'Oyly, Robert Henry David Tulloh, Patrick Cheap Clark, Charles Borlase Stevens, Frederick Fanning, Henry Baker Sweet, Charles Ricketts Maling, Robert Lewis Taylor, Robert Black, James Barnes Dunsterville, Alexander Lawrence Tweedie, Arthur Howlett, George Travers Sayer Carruthers, Charles Sydney Sparrow, James Travers, William Champion, Alexander Montgomery Armstrong, Thomas Peach Waterman, James John Combe.

The Report of the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir E. Stannus, C.B.) was satisfactory, as to the conduct of the Cadets during the term, alluded to the creditable performance of the duties, and the maintenance, on the part of the Corporal Cadets, of the discipline of the Institution, and to their meritorious example.

The prizes recommended by the Public Examiner and the Lieutenant-Governor were presented by the Chairman in the following order of merit; viz.:—

FIRST CLASS.

To Gentleman Cadet J. W. Fraser—1st Mathematical, 1st Fortification, Military Surveying, 1st Hindustane, and the Sword for general good conduct, in presenting which Sir James Lushington expressed himself as follows, viz.:—

“ Mr. Fraser,—In the name of the Court of Directors I present you with this sword, as a testimony of their high approbation of your exemplary good conduct. Whenever you look upon it and consider the circumstances under which you have received it, it will, I am satisfied, act as a talisman, and prevent your ever turning aside from the paths of rectitude and honour. I feel, therefore, more than confidence—I have an absolute conviction—that you will continue to pursue through life the same honourable course which has been the means of your acquiring this reward, as gratifying to me to present as it must be to you to receive.”

To A. Christie—2nd Good Conduct.

To C. V. Cox—Military Drawing and Civil Drawing.

To C. H. Dickens—2nd Mathematical.

To H. Hammond—French.

To G. W. Cuninghame—2nd Fortification.

To H. B. Sweet—Latin.

To R. L. Taylor—2nd Hindustane.

SECOND CLASS.

To H. Yule—Mathematical, Fortification, Military Drawing, Military Surveying, Latin, and Good Conduct.

To A. J. M. Boileau—French and Hindustane.

To G. F. Thorne—Civil Drawing.

THIRD CLASS.

To H. W. B. Bell—General Good Conduct.

At this stage of the proceedings Sir James Lushington delivered an address to the Cadets, which our limits prevent us from doing adequate justice to. We can only find room for the following appropriate extract:—

"I have frequently had the pleasure of witnessing, on former similar occasions to this, the attendance of many noble and distinguished persons, but never till this day have we been honoured by the presence of any Members of the Royal Family. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and his son Prince George, have graciously condescended to be present at this examination. I look upon this as an event Addiscombe may well be proud of. I hope I do not presume too much in saying, that to the high estimation in which this Institution is held by all who have had the opportunity of judging of its merits, and to its public reputation, we are indebted for the distinguished honour his Royal Highness has conferred upon us, and I would vain encourage the belief that the proceedings his Royal Highness may witness here this day will leave a favourable impression on his mind.

"I trust I do not exceed the bounds of discretion in breathing a hope that a moment might arrive when his Royal Highness would be pleased to assure our beloved Sovereign Lady the Queen, that it is the constant and earnest endeavour of the East India Company to train up their military officers in the manner best calculated to make them the loyal and courageous defenders of her Majesty's eastern dominions."

The MATHEMATICAL EXAMINATION commenced with several theorems and problems in geometry, which were given to those Cadets who were the least advanced in their studies. The Public Examiner then proceeded to give to other parts of the class some theorems in conic sections, &c., those in the mean time who had finished their geometry, solving several simple and quadratic equations of various degrees of difficulty, and expounding several algebraic examples by the binomial theorem. The senior Cadets afterwards demonstrated various propositions in different parts of mechanics and natural philosophy and their application to practice, such as the ballistic pendulum, the regulator or governor of steam-engines, &c., which concluded this part of the examination.

In the FORTIFICATION DEPARTMENT, Gentlemen Cadets Fraser, Cuninghame, Cox, Dickens, and Christie, had prepared various constructions, which were full of interest. The fortifications on both sides of the Rhine at Coblenz, as executed by General Aster, were beautifully drawn by Cadets Fraser and Cox, with explanations of the Forts of Alexander, of Ehrenbrietstein, and their dependencies. Cadet Christie had prepared the subject of sapping, and Captain Jebb's modification of advancing the double sap with three sap rollers: all these methods were illustrated by clear well-executed models of each kind of sap. Cadet Cuninghame had executed an elaborate plan of a system of fortification proposed by Lieutenant Kaye, of the Bengal Artillery, which he attacked and reduced in a very clear and able manner. Cadets Maling and Stevens had respectively attacks of the modern system, and a series of advanced lunettes, which contained projects of attack, journals of the sieges, tables of engineer and artillery means for the reduction of the defences. Cadet Dickens' plan of blindages and platforms was beautifully executed, and its explanatory notes were most perspicuous. A series of ordnance and mining experiments for breaching, as carried on by the French artillery at Metz, was arranged by Cadet Christie, accompanied by explanatory observations, showing how carefully he had studied the subject. These were amongst the leading subjects of a vast quantity of useful professional matter brought forward on this occasion.

On military budgets, seven Gentlemen Cadets were examined in Sir Howard Douglas's Essay on this subject, viz., Cadets Yule, Boileau, Robertson, Bourchier, Fytche, Bruce, and Williams, embracing chiefly the

construction of bridges of boats, pontoons, rafts of timber and casks, velocities of currents and their effects, &c. The subject of suspension-bridges had been most carefully examined by Cadet Yule, whose information excited considerable attention, especially his description of the ingenious mode of crossing the gap of 100 feet in width in the Roman bridge over the Tagus, at Alcantara, in 1812.

The out-door operations in this department consisted of the construction of several bridges across a piece of water, on which the bridge practice is constantly carried on. A strong bridge, sixty feet long, made of a pair of Colonel Blanshard's small infantry tin cylindrical pontoons, and of two rafts of small casks, with saddles and superstructure to correspond with the pontoons, was formed by a section of fourteen Cadets. An elegant little bridge for infantry, sixty feet long, was made of a pair of long spars resting on two small pontoons, and covered with light hurdles. There was a neat suspension-bridge also, sixty-six feet long, formed of two clams restrained by rough strong trees, firmly fixed in as uprights. After the bridging exhibition, the main works (which are greatly advanced around the parade-ground) were to have been attacked and escalated by escalading platforms, and all was prepared, when a tremendous shower of rain came on, which wet every person in the field through and through. The escalading platforms which were to have been used on this occasion are superior to escalading ladders, when the ditches of the field-works are narrow. In this case, the four platforms over which the assaulting parties were to mount into the bastion attacked, were to have been run out by Cadets from a portion of parallel at 110 yards distant in double-time, and, on reaching the counterscarp, their extremities to be dropped on the superior slopes of the parapets, stretching across an opening of thirty feet; the operation being covered by the fire of two 3-pounders in the parallel, and opposed by two 3-pounders in the defensive works. These platforms were each made of a pair of long scaffolding poles, lashed at three feet apart upon the axletrees of limber carriages, and having a good flooring of hurdles.

But the most interesting sight on this occasion was a boat proposed and executed by Lieutenant Cook, R.A., the able Assistant-Professor of Fortification at Addiscombe. This boat is eighteen feet long, six feet broad in the beam, and three feet deep, of great strength, and capable of carrying twenty men. It is formed of two sets of oak ribs, which enclose a strong canvas covered with Mackintosh varnish, so that, when the gunwale, the keel, and the keelson pieces are off, it folds up like a double telescope towards the centre; and the whole boat, with its gear, goes into a half-circular box six feet long, three feet deep in the curve, and one foot and a half wide, altogether weighing less than four cwt. An elephant can carry four of these boats, and thus eighty men can be pushed across a river by materials carried by one elephant. The boat is as well calculated for pontoons as for common purposes, as was illustrated at Addiscombe by the formation of a bridge sixty feet long, the boat being the only support between the banks upon which the spars rested. The buoyant properties of this boat are considerable, and it is especially suited to the service in India, where the transport of common pontoons is so difficult, from the bad nature of the roads.

The MILITARY DRAWINGS exhibited were as follows: viz.

FIRST CLASS.

Cape of Good Hope, by Gentleman Cadet Cox.

Battles of Dresden and Bergen, by Fraser.

Battle of Dresden, by D'Oyly.

Battle of Culm, by Hammond.

Do. do. by Christie.

Lines of Torres Vedras and of Car da Leu, by Clark.

Sketch of Ground between Lisbon and Vemeira, by Money.
 Sketch of the Height of Roleia, by Sweet.
 Battle of Belgrade, by Stevens.
 Battle of Malplaquet, by Tulloh.
 Survey of Ground in Kent, by Dickens.
 Dunkirk, by Dunsterville.
 Battle of Friedland, by Tweedie.
 Battle of Alexandria, by Howlett.
 Battle of Albuera, by Taylor.

Of the **SECOND CLASS**, the following were also deserving of much commendation :—

Storming of French Lines before Mayence, by Yule.
 Siege of Cuidad Rodrigo, by Fytche.
 Battle of Czaslar, by Boileau.
 Siege of Badajoz, by Williams.
 Ground near Croydon, by Bell.
 Sketch of the Disposition of the Allies in Arroys Melinea, by Stuart.
 Ground near Addington Park, by Bruce.

In the **MILITARY SURVEYING** Department numerous plans attested the diligence of the pupils during the past half-year. Those in the First Class have been exercised in taking sketches, with the aid of the pocket sextant and surveying compass, of various military positions in the surrounding country. This practice is calculated to give facility in sketching the features of ground, which is considered the most difficult part of Military Surveying. All the sketches exhibited were the original ones taken in the field, and many of them do great credit to the Cadets. Those of Messrs. J. Fraser, Alexander Christie, Charles V. Cox, and W. G. Cuninghame, were particularly noticed.

The proficiency now attained by many of the Gentlemen Cadets in this branch of their instruction, will insure at all times a supply of qualified officers for the important surveys constantly required in India.

LANDSCAPE DRAWING.

In this department a great variety of specimens were produced, showing much taste and talent. Among the most prominent, a view of Skelwith Force, in Langdale, Cumberland, by Gentleman Cadet C. Cox, of the 1st Class, attracted great attention, from its beauty and colour and complete finish. This drawing obtained the first prize. A view of the bay of Naples, by Gentleman Cadet J. Fraser, and a view on the Zuyder Zee near Amsterdam, by Gentleman Cadet A. Christie, were very little inferior; the former drawing possessing that happy serenity of atmosphere so peculiar to the climate of Italy. In the latter a gloomy and a very difficult sky was well given, representing the approach of a thunder-storm in large masses of dark electric clouds. A village scene, Evening, by Gentleman Cadet C. H. Dickens; a view of Wyburn Water, by Gentleman Cadet R. Tulloh; and a view of the city of Durham, by Gentleman Cadet H. Hammond, were exceedingly effective, and spoke well for the talent and industry of the several gentlemen by whom they were executed. In all, the aerial perspective was well preserved; and in the view of Durham Mr. Hammond has been remarkably fortunate in expressing the different degrees of distances, as seen in the direction of a setting sun, and the natural progression from the grey tints of the distant objects to the brighter and more powerful colours of the foreground. We must not omit a small but beautiful drawing, consisting of cottages, fissures, and trees agreeably mingled, by Gentleman Cadet G. F. Thorne, of the 2nd Class, to whom the 2nd prize was awarded.

Cambridge and the Leander Club.

On Wednesday, June the 13th, the grand eight-oared match between the gentlemen of the Leander Club and the Under-Graduates of the University of Cambridge was rowed, from Westminster bridge to Putney. The Leander Club, which has for many years been established, has lately increased so much in celebrity that it was generally considered that nothing on the river could go their pace; and although, we believe, till last year they never entered into an eight-oared contest, its members have competed frequently in other matches, and have been the first to patronise and lend a helping hand in bringing out the young watermen who aspired to aquatic fame.

The gentlemen of Cambridge, who till last year had confined their rowing to the "classic streams" of Cam, finding their efforts to bring out the Oxonians in a match with them entirely unsuccessful, came to the resolution of sending a challenge to the London Leander, and rowing them in their own water. This going to the top of the tree at once was considered a bold and by many an imprudent step: the repute of the London crew was so great that the odds were much in their favour, and great was the astonishment of all when, after a splendid contest, the Cantabs were victorious.

At the beginning of the present season the Leander, desirous of retrieving their lost laurels, expressed their wish for a return match, an arrangement into which the University men so readily entered, that, instead of inviting the Leander to Cambridge, after the usual system of home and home matches, they were willing again to row on the Thames. They selected the Jesus College boat, built by Searle, as best adapted to the race, whilst the Leander had a new eight built for them by Roberts. It is scarcely necessary to state, that, as regards training and the selection of the crews, everything was done by both parties that could by any possibility tend to success.

Long previous to the start thousands had assembled, and everything in the shape of a long boat was brought into requisition. All the *élite* of the river were present, and many of the eights were manned by crack watermen. Several cutters were brought up from Cambridge to accompany the match, and the Cantabs, with their blue favours, shone conspicuously on the river. The various bridges, and each shore from Westminster to Putney, were thronged with spectators, and a more enlivening and animated scene could not be imagined.

About five o'clock the contending parties made their appearance, and Cambridge, having won the choice of station, took No. 5 pier from the Middlesex shore, the Leander No. 6. The crews were composed of the following gentlemen;—

LEANDER.

1. Shephard,
2. Sherrard,
3. Lloyd,
4. Layton,
5. Wood,
6. Dalgleish,
7. Bishop,
8. Lewis (stroke).

James Parish, coxswain.

CAMBRIDGE.

1. Shadwell, St. John's College,
2. Smyth, Trinity,
3. Gough, Trinity,
4. Yatman, Caius,
5. Penrose, Trinity,
6. Paris, Corpus,
7. Brett, Caius,
8. Stanley (stroke), Jesus.

W. Noulton, coxswain.

The Leander had gained a host of power and judgment in Mr. Bishop, in the Cambridge boat there were only two who rowed last year: a finer set of young men never composed a crew, and we have no hesitation in saying, that in power they far surpassed that of last year. They came to their station in white cotton elastic jerseys with half-sleeves. The Leander were similarly attired, but their jerseys were slightly trimmed with scarlet, and had no sleeves. Both crews looked in excellent condition and full of

confidence. At half-past five, all being in readiness, and the umpire, Mr. E. Searle, having taken his seat in his cutter, the signal was given for the start. It was one of the most magnificent bursts from the bridge that we ever had the pleasure to witness, both crews going away in a style of excellence seldom equalled, certainly never surpassed. They were oar and oar only a short distance before the Leander went half a length in advance, owing to some unsteadiness among their opponents, occasioned by the swell of a steamer: the Cambridge, observing this, increased their exertions and came up to No. 3 oar of the Leander, when, in passing a barge off the wharfs in Milbank-street, the latter steered across, so that their starboard quarter was met by the stem of the Cambridge boat, and no room for passing was left. Beyond the Penitentiary, the Cambridge men allowed their opponents to go away, but before Vauxhall Bridge overhauled them again, and another foul was the result. On clearing, it was impossible, from the manœuvring of the Leander, for the Cambridge to pass them. Off the Red House another stoppage took place, and No. 4 oar in the Leander boat was carried away, but was immediately supplied from another boat. At this juncture the Cambridge, despairing of bringing the race to a fair trial of speed, threw up their oars, but, on hearing the cheers of the Londoners, which seemed to intimate that the Leander had won, they went to work again with such a degree of spirit and gallantry, that every stroke made their boat *wince* again, and off Cheyne-walk, Chelsea, overtook the leading crew, and, in consequence of more fouling, both boats were very near going athwart one of the piers. From the bridge to the church some slashing rowing took place, when the University gentlemen came up, and another fouling match followed. On breaking away, all the exertions of the Cambridge to pass clear were unavailing; they tried them at all points and on each side of the river, and, after crossing several times, the silk manufactory, about a quarter of a mile above the White Hart, was reached. Here the last foul took place, after which they started again, the Cantabs being in the eddy and the Leander more in the tide's way. It was a fresh burst that delighted all beholders, and was kept up with great spirit through a severe storm, of which even the spectators were quite regardless. The Leander came in first under the centre arch of Putney Bridge, with the stem of the Cambridge boat on their larboard quarter. The crews were hailed with loud and long cheering from the dense throng which lined the bridge and shores, and salutes of guns were continued till all had landed. In endeavouring to give a description of the match, we must, of necessity, fail in conveying to our readers any other than a faint idea of the splendour of the contest, and the spirit with which it was carried on.

At the conclusion of the race the Cambridge men immediately appealed to the umpire, on the grounds that in the conditions of the race it had been agreed that *there was to be no fouling*, they having been desirous of discovering which was the best crew, not of determining the relative merit of the coxswains. Mr. Searle, being unable to prove which party had first violated the agreement, decided that neither were victors.

In the evening, both crews, and a number of their friends, dined together at the Bells Tavern, where everything passed off with the utmost harmony. On Mr. Wood's returning thanks for the toast of "Health and prosperity to the Leander," the Cambridge men hinted that they would be glad, by a second trial, to come to a more satisfactory result, which wish they have since more formally signified; but the Leander have declined repeating the challenge, which by etiquette must proceed from them as the vanquished party.

UNITED SERVICE MUSEUM.

EVENING MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERS.

Monday, 4th June, 1838.

Major J. Thornton, Up. Cape Cavalry, in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read.

A list of nine Members, who had joined the Institution since the last Meeting, was read.

The following presents received since the last Meeting were exhibited:—

Mrs. Herbert Smith.—Three pair of richly-embroidered Turkish and Indian Slippers.

J. E. Chartier, Esq., D.A.C.G.—Card Model of the Shield and Works of the Thames Tunnel.

Colonel C. R. Fox.—A Silver Coin of Perseus King of Macedonia, 178 B.C.

From the Numismatic Society.—Proceedings of the Society, Part 2, containing the President's address.

From Colonel W. Miles, H.E.I.C.S.—The Shajrat ul Atrak, or Genealogical Tree of the Turks and Tatars, translated and abridged by Colonel Miles.

George Seward, Esq.—A highly-interesting collection of Articles brought from the South Seas during Captain Cook's first and last Voyages. Amongst them a Tomahawk, with which one of the natives had aimed a blow at the celebrated circumnavigator; it was broken in his hand by the intervention of a club held by another of the Savages. The Hair of a Lady of Otaheite, measuring nearly fathoms in length. A Nasal Flute. An Instrument for beating out bark and fibres into cloth: specimens of their various cloths, &c.

Lieutenant Holman, R.N.—Model of a Siberian Dog-Sledge.

J. Ford, Esq., Late 79th Highlanders.—Specimen of Marl Crag, or Pulpit Stone, from Orton in Westmoreland.

The thanks of the Meeting were voted to the several donors.

Mr. Read exhibited to the Meeting the Kettle-drums he had constructed to be used at the Coronation of Her Gracious Majesty, both in the procession and during the Abbey service. Mr. Read also explained the improved construction of these Drums, by which they could be tuned with ease. Their scale ranged over about ten notes.

The following Papers were read:—

1st. Conclusion of a Paper, entitled "A Ramble amid the Jibel Hadjar, or Rocky Mountains of the Island of Socotra." By Lieut. J. R. Wellsted, I.N., F.R.S., &c.*

2nd. Conclusion of a series of Papers on Gothic Architecture. By Commander Wm. Ramsay, R.N., F.R.A.S.

The thanks of the Meeting were voted to Lieutenant Wellsted and Commander Ramsay, for their several communications.

The Meeting adjourned to the 18th inst., on which occasion the Chairman had the pleasure to announce, that the Institution would be honoured by the presence of ladies.

June 18th.

Lieut.-General Sir Thomas M. Brisbane, Bart., G.C.B., F.R.S., LL.D., &c., in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read.

A List of six Names, who had joined the Institution since the last Meeting, was read.

A List of Books ordered to be purchased for the Library was read.

The following presents received since the last Meeting were exhibited:—

His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex.—A handsome Universal Dial, in use about 120 years ago, with lens, plumb-line, adjustment for variation of compass, &c. Captain W. H. Smyth, R.N., through whom this dial was presented to the Institution, was charged by his Royal Highness to express to the Council his highest approbation of the objects of the Institution, and his intention of paying a personal visit to the Museum.

Mrs. Henry Hanmer.—The Nest of the Cock Weaver Bird.

Captain the Honourable Price Blackwood, R.N.—Two cases containing a valuable collection of Insects from Van Diemen's Land.

Lieut.-General Sir Ralph Darling, K.C.H.—A fine specimen of the "*Ornithorhynchus Paradoxus*."

The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.—The Ordnance Survey of the County of Roscommon, in 58 sheets.

Martyn J. Roberts, Esq.—Model of an improved Anchor, without stock.

Lewis Tonnor, Esq.—An Italian translation of Sallust, printed at Venice, A.D. 1518, entitled *Sallustio con alcune altre belle cose Vulgarizzate*, per Agostino Ortica della Porta Genovese.

—An Italian translation of Thucydides, Venice, A.D. 1545. Both in their original bindings.—Nine Egyptian Idols.

S. A. Eyre, Esq., Late Assistant-Surgeon 13th Light Infantry.—The Principles of the Art Military, by Captain Henry Hexham. Folio. Delf, in Holland. 1642.

Captain Tulloch, War-Office.—Statistical Report on the Sickness, Mortality, and invaliding among the troops in the West Indies. Folio. London, 1838.

The thanks of the Meeting were voted to the several donors.

The following papers were read:—

1st. "On the Percussion Hand-Grenade." By Captain J. Norton, late 34th Regiment.

2nd. "On the effect produced on Cast-Iron by the long-continued action of salt water." By Henry Wilkinson, Esq., M.R.A.S.

3rd. "On the explosion of Mines and blasting of Rocks by electricity." By Henry Wilkinson, Esq. (Illustrated by numerous and interesting experiments.)

The thanks of the Meeting were voted to Captain Norton and Mr. Wilkinson for their several communications.

The Chairman announced that the Meetings for the season were now concluded, and that they would recommence on Monday, 7th January, 1839.

C. F. Forbes, M.D., K.H., having been called to the chair, the thanks of the Meeting were voted to Sir Thomas Brisbane. The Chairman informed the ladies present that they were fully entitled to vote on this occasion, and hoped they would express their concurrence by holding up their handkerchiefs, of which privilege they unanimously availed themselves.

STATIONS OF THE BRITISH ARMY ON 1st JULY, 1838.

[Where two places are mentioned, the last-named is that at which the Depôt of the Regt. is stationed.]

- 1st Life Guards—Windsor.
 2nd do.—Regent's Park.
 Royal Horse Guards—Hyde Park.
 1st Dragoon Guards—Canada; Coventry.
 2nd do.—Newbridge.
 3rd do.—Manchester.
 4th do.—Ipswich.
 5th do.—York.
 6th do.—Dorchester.
 7th do.—Edinburgh.
 1st Dragoons—Cork.
 2nd do.—Dublin.
 3rd do.—Bengal.
 4th do.—Bombay.
 6th do.—Cahir.
 7th Hussars—Canada; Coventry.
 8th do.—Dublin.
 9th Lancers—Leeds.
 10th Hussars—Nottingham.
 11th Light Dragoons—Canterbury.
 12th Lancers—Hounslow.
 13th Light Dragoons—Madras.
 14th do.—Birmingham.
 15th Hussars—Glasgow.
 16th Lancers—Bengal.
 17th do.—Dublin.
 Grenadier Guard; [1st batt.]—St. George's B.
 Do. [2nd battalion]—Canada.
 Do. [3rd battalion]—Portman B.
 Coldstream Guards [1st batt.]—Windsor.
 Do. [2nd battalion]—Canada.
 Sc. Fusilier Guards [1st batt.]—Wellington B.
 Do. [2nd battalion]—St. John's Wt.
 1st Foot [1st battalion]—Edinburgh.
 Do. [2nd battalion]—Canada; Plymouth.
 2nd do.—Bombay; Chatham.
 3rd do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 4th do.—Madras; Chatham.
 5th do.—Ionian Isles; Portsmouth.
 6th do.—Bombay; Chatham.
 7th do.—Dublin.
 8th do.—Jamaica; Cork.
 9th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 10th do.—Fermoy.
 11th do.—Bermuda; Kinsale, ordered home.
 12th do.—Mauritius; Tralee.
 13th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 14th do.—West Indies; Brecon.
 15th do.—Canada; Buttevant.
 16th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 17th do.—Bombay; Chatham.
 18th do.—Ceylon; Newbridge.
 19th do.—Templemore.
 20th do.—Tower.
 21st do.—Van Diemen's Land; Chatham.
 22nd do.—Belfast.
 23rd do.—America; Armagh.
 24th do.—Canada; Gosport.
 25th do.—Limerick.
 26th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 27th do.—Cape of G. Hope, Chatham.
 28th do.—N. S. Wales; Chatham.
 29th do.—Plymouth.
 30th do.—Bermuda; Sunderland.
 31st do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 32nd do.—Canada; Devonport.
 33rd do.—Gibraltar; Drogheda.
 34th do.—Canada; Fermoy.
 35th do.—Mauritius; Strillog.
 36th do.—W. Indies; Devonport, ord. for Amer.
 37th do.—Jamaica; Plymouth.
 38th do.—Dublin.
 39th Foot—Madras; Chatham.
 40th do.—Bombay; Chatham.
 41st do.—Madras; Chatham.
 42nd do.—Dublin.
 43rd do.—Canada; Dover.
 44th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 45th do.—Canterbury.
 46th do.—Gibraltar; Kinsale.
 47th do.—Malta; Portsmouth.
 48th do.—Athlone, ordered for Gibraltar.
 49th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
 50th do.—New South Wales; Chatham.
 51st do.—Chatham, for Van Diemen's Land.
 52nd do.—Gibraltar; Newcastle, ord. for W. Ind.
 53rd do.—Ionian Isles; Dublin.
 54th do.—Madras; Chatham.
 55th do.—Madras; Chatham.
 56th do.—Jamaica; Sheerness.
 57th do.—Madras; Chatham.
 58th do.—Ceylon; Fethard, ordered home.
 59th do.—Malta; Mullingar.
 60th do. [1st batt.]—Corfu; Hull.
 Do. [2nd batt.]—Corfu; Jersey.
 61st do.—Ceylon; Clonmel; ordered home.
 62nd do.—Madras; Chatham.
 63rd do.—Madras; Chatham.
 64th do.—Jamaica; Londonderry.
 65th do.—America; Naas.
 66th do.—Canada; Youghal.
 67th do.—W. Indies; Chatham.
 68th do.—Jamaica; Waterford.
 69th do.—W. Indies; Dover.
 70th do.—W. Indies; Guernsey.
 71st do.—Canada; Cork.
 72nd do.—Cape of Good Hope; Paisley.
 73rd do.—America; Clare Castle.
 74th do.—West Indies; Aberdeen.
 75th do.—Cape of Good Hope; Boyle.
 76th do.—W. Indies; Drogheda.
 77th do.—Malta; Galway.
 78th do.—Glasgow.
 79th do.—Dublin.
 80th do.—N. S. Wales; Chatham.
 81st do.—Gibraltar; Carlisle.
 82nd do.—Gibraltar; Cork.
 83rd do.—Canada; Chester Castle.
 84th do.—Portsmouth.
 85th do.—Canada; Cork.
 86th do.—Stockport.
 87th do.—Mauritius; Castlebar.
 88th do.—Bolton.
 89th do.—West Indies; Gosport.
 90th do.—Ceylon; Portsmouth.
 91st do.—St. Helena; Dundee.
 92nd do.—Malta; Nenagh.
 93rd do.—America; Buttevant.
 94th do.—Cork, ordered for Ceylon.
 95th do.—Newry, ordered for Ceylon.
 96th do.—Enniskillen.
 97th do.—Birr.
 98th do.—Manchester.
 99th do.—Templemore.
 Rifle Brig. [1st batt.]—Woolwich.
 Do. [2nd batt.]—Portsmouth.
 Royal Staff Corps—Hythe.
 1st West India Regiment—St. Lucia, &c.
 2nd do.—New Providence and Honduras.
 Ceylon Rifle Regiment—Ceylon.
 Cape Mounted Riflemen—Cape of Good Hope.
 Royal African Colonial Corps—Sierra Leone.
 Royal Newfoundland Veteran Comp.—Newfd.
 Royal Malta Fencibles—Malta.

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STATIONS OF THE ROYAL NAVY IN COMMISSION 1ST JULY, 1838.

- Atina**, 6, sur. v. Capt. A. T. E. Vidal, Coast of Africa.
African, st. sur. v. Capt. F. W. Beechey, Coast of Ireland.
Alban, st. v. Lieut. B. B. Tinsling, W. Indies.
Algerine, 10, Lieut. W. S. Thomas, East Indies.
Alligator, 28, Capt. Sir J. J. G. Bremer, C.B., K.C.H., Australia.
Andromache, 28, Captain R. I. Baynes, C.B., particular serv.
Arrow, 10, Lieut. B. J. Sullivan, Portsmouth.
Asia, 84, Capt. W. Fisher, Mediterranean.
Astræa, 6, Capt. J. H. Plamridge, Falmouth.
Batham, 50, Capt. A. L. Corry, Mediterranean.
Basilek, 6, ketch, Lieut. G. G. Macdonald, South America.
Beacon, 8, sur. v. Lieut. T. Graves, Mediter.
Beagle, 10, sur. v. Com. J. C. Wickham, Australia.
Bellerophon, 80, Captain C. J. Austen, Mediter.
Blazer, st. v. Lieut. J. M. Waugh, Mediter.
Bonetta, 3, Lieut. J. L. R. Stoll, Coast of Africa.
Boxer, st. v. Com. F. Bullock, par. ser.
Brisk, 3, Lieut. A. Kellett, Coast of Africa.
Britannia, 120, Adm. P. C. H. Durham, G.C.B., Capt. H. Dundas, Portsmouth.
Britomart, 10, Lieut. O. Stanley, Australia.
Bruno, 22, Captain J. Clavell, Chatham.
Calliope, 28, Captain T. Herbert, S. America.
Carron, st. v. Lieut. J. B. Cragg, West Indies.
Carysfort, 26, Capt. H. B. Martin, Mediter.
Castor, 36, Capt. E. Collier, Mediterranean.
Ceylon, 3, Commodore Sir J. Louis, Bart. rec. sh. Malta.
Champion, 18, Com. G. St. V. King, W. Indies.
Charydis, 3, Lieut. Hon. R. Goro, partic. serv.
Cleopatra, 36, Capt. Hon. G. Grey, S. America.
Clio, 16, Com. W. Richardson, Mediterranean.
Cockatrice, 6, Lieut. J. Douglas, S. America.
Columbine, 16, Com. G. Elliot, Chatham.
Comet, st. v. Lieut. G. T. Gordon, par. ser.
Comus, 18, Com. Hon. P. P. Cary, West Indies.
Confiance, st. v. Lieut. R. Stopford, Mediter.
Conway, 28, Capt. C. R. Drinkwater Bethune, East Indies.
Cornwallis, 74, Vice-Adm. Hon. Sir C. Paget, G.C.H., Capt. Sir R. Grant, Kt., W. Indies.
Crocodile, 28, Capt. J. Polkinghorne, West Indies.
Cruizer, 16, Com. R. H. King, East Indies.
Dido, 10, Capt. R. Davies, C.B., Mediterranean.
Dolphin, 3, Lieut. J. Macdougall, C. of Africa.
Donegal, 78, Rear-Adm. Sir J. A. Ommamney, Capt. J. Drake, Lisbon station.
Echo, st. v. Lieut. W. James, West Indies.
Edinburgh, 74, Capt. W. W. Henderson, K.H., particular serv.
Electra, 18, Com. W. Preston, South America.
Espoir, 10, Lieut. J. T. Paulson, Lisbon.
Excellent, 76, Capt. T. Hastings, Portsmouth.
Fair Rosamond, Lieut. W. B. Oliver, Coast of Africa.
Fairy, 10, sur. v. Capt. W. Hewett, Woolwich.
Favourite, 18, Com. W. Croker, East Indies.
Fleety, st. v. Lieut. J. Pearce, Mediterranean.
Flamor, st. v. Lieut. J. M. Potbury, W. Indies.
Fly, 18, Com. R. Elliott, South America.
Forester, 3, Lieut. C. G. E. Napier, Coast of Africa.
Griffon, 8, Lieut. J. G. D'Urban, West Indies.
Harlequin, 16, Com. J. E. Erskine, Mediterran.
Harpy, 10, Lieut. J. S. Ellman, West Indies.
Harrier, 18, Com. W. H. H. Carew, S. America.
Hastings, 74, Captain F. E. Loch, part. serv.
Hazard, 16, Com. J. Wilkinson, Mediter.
Herald, 18, Capt. Jas. Nias, Portsmouth.
Hercules, 74, Capt. J. T. Nicolas, C.B., K.H., par. ser.
Hermes, st. v. Lieut. W. S. Blount, Woolwich.
Hornet, 6, Lieut. H. Baillie, West Indies.
Howe, 120, Vice-Adm. Sir R. Otway, Bt. K.C.B., Capt. C. H. Paget, Sheerness.
Hyacinth, 18, Com. W. Warren, East Indies.
Imogene, 28, Capt. H. W. Bruce, S. America.
Inconstant, 36, Capt. D. Pring, particular serv.
Jaseur, 16, Com. F. M. Boulton, Plymouth.
Lark, 4, sur. v. Lieut. T. Smith, W. Indies.
Larne, 18, Com. P. J. Blake, East Indies.
Leveret, 10, Lieut. C. J. Bosanquet, Coast of Africa.
Lightning, st. v. L. Jas. Shambler, partic. serv.
Lily, 16, Com. J. F. Eve, South America.
Lynx, 3, Lieut. H. Broadhead, Coast of Africa.
Madagascar, 46, Capt. P. P. Wallis, partic. serv.
Magicienne, 24, Capt. G. W. St. John Mildmay, Lisbon station.
Magnificent, 4, Commodore P. J. Douglas, rec. ship, Jamaica.
Magpie, 4, sur. v. Lieut. T. S. Brock, Mediter.
Malabar, 74, Captain Ed. Harvey, partic. serv.
Medea, st. v. Com. J. N. Nott, partic. serv.
Megara, st. v. Lieut. H. C. Goldsmith, Medit.
Melville, 74, Rear-Adm. Hon. G. Elliot, C.B., Capt. Hon. R. S. Dundas, Cape of Good Hope and Coast of Africa.
Meteor, st. v. Lieut. R. D. Pritchard, partic. serv.
Minden, 74, Capt. A. R. Sharpe, C.B., Plymouth.
Modeste, 18, Com. H. Eyres, partic. service.
Nautilus, 10, Lieut. G. Beaufoy, Coast of Africa.
Nimrod, 30, Com. J. Fraser, W. Indies.
North Star, 28, Commodore Lord John Hay, C.B., particular serv.
Partridge, 10, Lieut. W. Morris, Portsmouth.
Pearl, 20, Com. Lord C. E. Paget, W. Indies.
Pelican, 16, Com. B. Popham, Coast of Africa.
Pelorus, 16, Com. F. Harding, East Indies.
Pembroke, 74, Capt. F. Moresby, C.B., Medit.
Phoenix, st. v. Com. W. H. Henderson, particular serv.
Pickle, 5, Lieut. P. Haast, W. Indies.
Pique, 36, Capt. E. Boxer, particular serv.
Pluto, steam-ves., Lieut. W. V. Lee, partic. serv.
President, 52, Rear-Adm. C. B. Ross, C.B., Capt. J. Scott, South America.
Princess Charlotte, 104, Adm. Hon. Sir R. Stopford, G.C.B., Capt. A. Faushawe, Med.
Pylades, 18, Com. W. L. Castle, Coast of Africa.
Racchorse, Com. H. W. Craufurd, West Indies.
Raleigh, 16, Capt. M. Quin, East Indies.
Rattlesnake, 28, Capt. W. Hobson, E. Indies.
Raven, 4, sur. v. Lieut. G. A. Bedford, C. of Africa.
Rhadamanthus, st. v. Com. A. Wakefield, Mediterranean.
Ringdove, 16, Com. H. S. Nixon, W. Indies.
Rodney, 32, Capt. Hyde Parker, Mediter.
Rover, 18, Com. Chas. Eden, South America.
Royal Adelaide, 104, Adm. Lord A. Beauchamp, G.C.B., G.C.H., Capt. Sir Wm. Elliott, C.B., K.C.H., Plymouth.
Royal George, yacht, Capt. Lord A. Fitzclarence, G.C.H., Portsmouth.
Royal Sovereign, yacht, Capt. Sup. S. Jackson, C.B., Pembroke.
Royalist, 10, Lieut. Hon. E. Plunkett, particular services.
Russell, 74, Capt. Sir W. H. Dillon, K.C.H., Lisbon Station.
Salamander, st. v. Com. S. C. Dacres, Woolwich.
Samarang, 33, Capt. W. Broughton, S. America.

San Josef, 110, Capt. J. Hancock, C.B., guard-
ship, Plymouth.
Sappho, 28, Capt. R. F. Rowley, Mediterran.
Sappho, 16, Com. T. Fraser, West Indies.
Saracen, 10, Lieut. H. W. Hill, Co. of Africa.
Satellite, 18, Com. I. Robb, West Indies.
Savage, 10, Lieut. Hon. E. R. Curzon, par. ser.
Scorpion, 10, Lieut. O. Gayton, Mediterranean.
Scout, 18, Com. R. Craigie, Coast of Africa.
Scylla, 16, Com. Hon. J. Denman, Lisbon sta.
Seaflower, 4, Lieut. J. Roche, Portsmouth.
Serlingapatam, 46, Capt. J. Leith, West Indies.
Serpent, 16, Com. R. L. Warren, W. Indies.
Skipjack, 5, Lieut. J. J. Robinson, W. Indies.
Snake, 16, Com. A. Milne, West Indies.
Sparrow, 10, Lieut. R. Lowry, South America.
Sparrowhawk, 16, Com. J. Shepherd, S. Amerl.
Spider, 6, Lieut. J. O'Reilly (a) South America.
Spitfire, st. v. 6, Lieut. A. Kennedy, part. serv.
Stag, 46, Commodore T. B. Sullivan, C.B., South
America.
Starling, sur. v. Lieut. H. Kellett, S. America.
Sulphur, 8, sur. v. Com. E. Belcher, S. America.
Tulavera, 74, Capt. W. B. Mends, par. service.
Talbot, 28, Capt. H. J. Codrington, Medit.
Tartarus, st. v. Lieut. G. W. Smith, W. Indies.
Téméraire, C.04, Capt. Sir John Hill, Kt., guard-
ship, Sheerness.

Termagant, Lieut. W. J. Williams, Coast of
Africa.
Thunder, sur. v. Lieut. E. Barnett, West Indies.
Tribune, 24, Capt. C. H. Williams, Chatham.
Trinonlo, 16, Com. H. E. Coffin, Lisbon station.
Tweed, 20, Com. Hon. F. T. Pelham, part. serv.
Tyne, 28, Capt. J. Townshend, Med.
Vanguard, 80, Capt. Sir Thos. Fellowes, Kt. C.B.
Mediterranean.
Vestal, 26, Capt. T. W. Carter, West Indies.
Victor, 16, Com. R. Crozier, East Indies.
Victory, 104, Capt. T. Searle, C.B., guard-ship,
Portsmouth.
Viper, 6, Lieut. W. Winniett, Coast of Africa.
Volage, 28, Capt. H. Smith, East Indies.
Volcano, st. v. Lieut. Jas. West, Woolwich.
Wanderer, 16, Com. T. Bushby, West Indies.
Wasp, 18, Com. Hon. D. W. A. Pelham, Medit.
Water Witch, 10, Lieut. W. Dickey, C. of Africa.
Weazle, 10, Lieut. W. M'Ilwaine, Plymouth.
Wellesley, 74, Rear-Admiral Sir F. L. Mait-
laud, K. C.B.; Capt. T. Maitlaud, E. Indies.
William and Mary, yacht, Capt. P. Hornby,
Woolwich.
Wizard, 10, Lieut. T. F. Birch, S. America.
Wolf, 18, Com. E. Stanley, East Indies.
Wolverine, 16, Com. Hon. E. Howard, Medit.
Zebra, 16, Capt. R. C. M'Crea, East Indies.

SLOOP OF WAR COMMISSIONED AS PACKETS.

Alert, Lieut. C. H. Norrington.
Briscis, Lieut. John Downey.
Delight, Lieut. J. Moore (b).
Express, Lieut. W. G. Croke.
Goldfinch, Lieut. Edw. Collier.
Hope, Lieut. W. L. Rees.
Lapwing, Lieut. F. R. Coghlan.
Linnet, Lieut. W. Downey.
Lyra, Lieut. W. Forrester.
Magnet, Lieut. S. Griffith.
Mutine, Lieut. Richard Pawle.
Nightingale, Lieut. G. Fortescue.

Opossum, Lieut. Robt. Peter.
Pandora, Lieut. R. W. Jones.
Pigeon, Lieut. W. Luce.
Ranger, Lieut. J. H. Turner.
Reindeer, Lieut. H. P. Dicken.
Seagull, Lieut. J. Parsons.
Sheldrake, Lieut. A. R. L. Passingham.
Skylark, Lieut. C. P. Ladd.
Spey, Lieut. Rob. B. James.
Star, Lieut. C. Smith.
Swift, Lieut. D. Welch.
Tyrian, Lieut. Ed. Jennings.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

NAVY.

APPOINTMENTS.

COMMANDER.

G. Elliot Columbine.

LIEUTENANTS.

G. Sankey Herald.
H. G. Morris Do.
M. Thomas Cornwallis.
W. B. Blount to com. Hermes st. v.
R. Pison Jaseur.
A. Leathart Coast Guard.
J. H. Bellamy Do.
R. Brown Do.
G. J. Gardner Do.
D. Agassiz Pembroke.
A. Grant Madagascar.
C. G. E. Napier to com. Forrester.
Lord H. Russell Tyne.
A. Clifford (sup.) Princess Charlotte.

MASTERS.

P. C. D. Bean Herald.
J. Keun (acting) Jaseur.

SUBROONS.

J. Baird Magnificent.
A. Law Herald.
J. Lardner Jaseur.

ASSISTANT-SUBROONS.

J. Thompson, M.D. (sup.) Britannia.
D. Richie do. do.
R. A. Bankier Herald.
H. Brown Excellent.
J. Thompson Tribune.
S. S. Stanley Haslar Hospital.
J. T. Jenkins (add.) Jaseur.

PUSERS.

J. Gilles Herald.
E. Heaslop Jaseur.

ROYAL MARINES.

Ed. Pengelly to be Second-Lieutenant.
W. Jolliffe do.
K. S. Harrison do. do.

ARMY.

DOWNING STREET, May 24.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Lieut.-Col. G. Gawler (the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of South Australia) to be Resident Commissioner of Public Lands in the Province of South Australia.

WAR OFFICE, May 25.

• 12th Light Dragoons—Henry Arthur Scott, Gent. to be Cornet by purch. vice De Montmorency, who retires.

9th Foot—Ensign Richard Gibbons Morgan to be Lieut. by purch. vice Crickitt, who retires; George John Thomas, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Morgan.

12th—Lieut. Hew Dalrymple Fanshawe, from h.p. Unatt. to be Lieut. vice John Thompson, who exch. receiving diff.

52nd—James Holder Alleyne, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Fanshawe, prom.

55th—Ensign Albert Frend to be Lieut. without purch. vice Daubeney, dec.; Gent. Cadet Daniel M'Coy, from the R. M. C. to be Ensign vice Frend.

68th—Salway Browne, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Proctor, who retires.

72nd—Quartermaster-Serj. William Hume to be Quartermaster, vice Miller, whose appointment has not taken place.

79th—Major James Chadwick, from h.p. Unatt. to be Major, vice Alexander Forbes, who exch.; Capt. Andrew Brown to be Major by purch. vice Chadwick, who retires; Lieut. Thomas Isham to be Capt. by purch. vice Brown; Ensign John Douglas to be Lieut. by purch. vice Isham; Alexander Buchanan, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Douglas.

82nd—Ensign W. P. Labalmondiero to be Lieut. by purch. vice Durie, who retires; Francis John Hext, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Labalmondiero.

Unattached—Ensign Hew Dalrymple Fanshawe, from the 52nd Foot, to be Lieut. by purch.

Brevet—Lieut.-Col. James Considine, on h.p. Unatt. to have the local rank of Major-Gen. on a particular service in Africa.

Mem.—The Christian names of Asst.-Surg. Burton, Royal African Colonial Corps, are Edward John, and not Edward James; Lieut. Humphrey Gunn Black, upon h.p. 34th Foot, has been allowed to retire from the Service by the sale of a Lieutenantcy, he being about to become a settler in New South Wales.

WAR OFFICE, June 1.

Royal Horse Guards—Cornet Thomas Beauchamp Proctor to be Lieut. by purch. vice Tomkinson, who retires; Chas. Roland Palmer Morewood, Gent. to be Cornet by purch. vice Proctor.

14th Light Dragoons—Capt. Charles Barton to be Major by purch. vice Smith, who retires; Lieut. Wm. Henry Archer to be Capt. by purch. vice Barton; Cornet John Henry Tonge to be Lieut. by purch. vice Archer; Cornet Charles Henry John Rich, from 3rd Dragoon Guards, to be Cornet, vice Tonge.

17th Foot—Edwin Colville Moore, Gent. to be Ensign without purch. vice Perleat, dec.

24th—Ensign George Abercromby Ferrier to be Lieut. by purch. vice Bernard, who retires; Methuen Stedman, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Ferrier; Surg. William Lorimer, from 1st West India Regt. to be Surg. vice Shortt, prom.

28th—Ensign William Kerr, from Royal Newfoundland Vet. Companies, to be Quartermaster, vice John James Peters, who retires upon h.p.

30th—Ensign James Charles Ellard L'Esterre to be Lieut. without purch. vice Borton, dec.; Harry S. A. Ormond, Gent. to be Ensign, vice D'Esterre.

34th—Ensign Edward Plantagenet Airey Talbot to be Lieut. by purch. vice Daniell, who retires; Henry Beckett Bertles, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Talbot.

45th—Capt. John Charles Campbell, from h.p. Unatt. to be Capt. vice Alexander Murray Tulloch, who exch.

46th—Ensign Theodore Dickens, from h.p. of the 2nd Garrison Batt. to be Ensign, vice Jenkins, appointed to the Royal Newfoundland Vet. Companies.

53rd—Lieut. Robert Spring, from h.p. of 45th Foot, to be Lieut. vice David Richard Jones, who exch.

55th—Ensign Wm. Peregrine Taylor to be Lieut. without purch. vice Glover, dec.; Serj.-Major Timothy Crowe, from 30th Foot, to be Ensign, vice Taylor.

58th—Lieut. Wm. E. Grant to be Adj. vice Gorman, who resigns the Adjutancy only; Lieut. Simon Farrer, from h.p. 1st Foot, to be Lieut. vice Gorman, app. to 80th Foot.

59th—Lieut. Geo. Fenton Fletcher Boughiey to be Capt. by purch. vice Matson, who retires; Ensign Henry Perrott to be Lieut. by purch. vice Boughiey; Evan Mackenzie, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Perrott.

63rd—Ensign Conan Hopton to be Lieut. without purch. vice Fairtlough, dec.; Ensign Richard Ramsbottom to be Lieut. by purch. vice Hopton, whose promotion by purch. has not taken place; Ensign Henry Lees, from 2nd West India Regt. to be Ensign, vice Ramsbottom.

68th—Lieut. John Johnston to be Adj. vice Mainwaring, who resigns the Adjutancy only.

80th—Lieut. Owen Gorman, from 58th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Arthur Stewart, who retires upon h.p. 1st Foot.

84th—Ensign Matthew Cassan to be Lieut. without purch. vice Curtis, dec.; Thos. Lightfoot, Gent. to be Ensign, vice Cassan.

85th—Ensign Cholmondeley Edward Dering to be Lieut. without purch. vice Crofton, dec.; Ensign John Wm. Grey to be Lieut. by purch. vice Dering, whose promotion by purch. has not taken place; Frederick John Campbell Fortye, Gent. to be Ensign without purch. vice Grey.

93rd—Lieut. George Balck to be Capt. by purch. vice Grant, who retires; Ensign Hon. William Bosville Macdonald to be Lieut. by purch. vice Balck; Thomas McKnight Craufurd, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Macdonald.

1st West India Regiment—Assistant Staff-Surg. James Duncanson, M.D. to be Surg. vice Lorimer, appointed to 24th Foot.

2nd West India Regiment—John Gaggin Cox, Gent. to be Ensign without purch. vice Lees, appointed to 63rd Foot.

Royal Newfoundland Veteran Companies—Ensign William Jenkins, from 46th Foot, to be Ensign, vice Kerr, appointed to 28th Foot.

Unattached—Lieut. John Blackall, from 54th Foot, to be Capt. without purch.

Hospital Staff—Surg. John Shortt, M.D. from 24th Foot, to be Assist.-Inspector of Hospitals; Staff-Surg. Brinsley Nicholson, M.D. to be Assist.-Inspector of Hospitals, with local and temporary rank at the Cape of Good Hope.

WAR-OFFICE, June 8.

2nd Regt. Life Guards—Lieut. R. Blane to be Capt. by purch. vice Squire, who retires; Sub-Lieut. J. J. W. Peyton to be Lieut. by purch. vice Blane; R. Lucas, Gent. to be Cornet and Sub-Lieut. by purch. vice Peyton.

3rd Dragoon Guards—H. H. Bacon, Gent. to be Cornet by purch. vice Rich, app. to the 14th Light Dragoons.

6th Dragoons—Lieut.-Col. M. Childers, from h.p. Unatt. to be Lieut.-Col. vice H. Madox, who exch.; Major J. Ratcliffe to be Lieut.-Col. by purch. vice Childers, who retires; Capt. R. White to be Major by purch. vice Ratcliffe; Lieut. T. W. McMahon to be Capt. by purch. vice White; Cornet J. King to be Lieut. by purch. vice McMahon; J. Davidson, Gent. to be Cornet by purch. vice King.

4th Foot—Lieut. F. L. Arthur to be Capt. by purch. vice Mason, who retires; Ensign J. Palmer to be Lieut. by purch. vice Arthur; T. C. Morgan, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Palmer.

7th—Capt. A. Congreve, from h.p. Unatt. to be Capt. vice G. F. Strangways, who exch.; Lieut. F. S. Hutchinson to be Capt. by purch. vice Congreve, who retires; Ensign Hon. T. H. H. Thurlow, from the 70th Foot, to be Lieut. by purch. vice Hutchinson.

22nd—Lieut. C. Hopton, from the 63rd Foot, to be Lieut. vice Wheatstone, who exch.

30th—Ensign S. J. L. Nicoll to be Lieut. by purch. vice Wright, who retires; D. J. B. Edwards, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Nicoll.

35th—Capt. E. H. Hutchinson, from h.p. Unatt. to be Capt. vice W. Rainforth, who exch. receiving difference.

39th—Capt. J. Blackall, from h.p. Unatt. to be Capt. vice Boland, app. to the 59th Foot.

45th—Lieut. J. I. Oakley, from the h.p. of the Regt. to be Lieut. vice Bennett, dec.

58th—Capt. R. S. Boland, from 39th Foot, to be Capt. vice R. T. Hopkins, who retires upon h.p. Unatt.

63rd—Lieut. G. J. Wheatstone, from 22nd Foot, to be Lieut. vice Hopton, who exch.

79th—Lieut. J. Cockburn to be Capt. by purch. vice Rooker, who retires; Ensign R. Smith to be Lieut. by purch. vice Cockburn; R. D. Clephane, Gent. to be Ensign, by purch. vice Smith.

83rd—Sergt.-Major R. McInroy to be Quarter-master, vice J. Rusher, who retires upon h.p.

88th—Staff-Assist.-Surg. A. C. Webster to be Assist.-Surg. vice Dumbreck, who exch.

94th—Lieut. R. Aldworth to be Capt. by purch. vice Stephens, who retires; Ensign H. G. Buller to be Lieut. by purch. vice Aldworth; Ensign W. Fisher to be Lieut. by purch. vice Shiel, who retires; R. Dillon, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Buller; R. Bruce, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Fisher.

95th—Lieut. J. R. Currie to be Capt. by purch. vice Wigmore, who retires; Ensign R. Pratt to be Lieut. by purch. vice Currie; G. J. Dowdall, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Pratt.

Unattached—Lieut. E. H. Hutchinson, from 12th Foot, to be Capt. by purch.

Brevet—Lieut.-Col. M. Childers, of the 6th Dragoons, to be Col. in the Army.

Hospital Staff—Assist.-Surg. D. Dumbreck, M.D. from 88th Foot, to be Assist.-Surg. to the Forces, vice Webster, who exch.

Memorandum—Capt. J. Cunningham, upon half-pay of the 89th Foot, has been allowed to retire from the Army, with the sale of his commission; he being about to become a settler in Canada.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, June 11.

Corps of Royal Engineers—First-Lieut. W. Lancy to be Second-Capt. vice Heath, retired; Second-Lieut. S. Westmacott to be First-Lieut. vice Lancy.

WAR OFFICE, June 15.

3rd Light Dragoons—Lieut. Hon. C. Powis, from the 16th Light Dragoons, to be Lieut. vice Burridge, who exch.

10th Light Dragoons—Lieut.-Col. J. Vandeleur, from h.p. Unatt. to be Lieut.-Col. vice Lord T. Cecil, who exch.

16th Light Dragoons—Lieut. J. O. Burridge, from the 3rd Light Dragoons, to be Lieut. vice Powis, who exch.

4th Foot—Lieut. R. H. Yea, from the 7th Foot, to be Lieut. vice MacLaine, who exch.

7th—Lieut. M. MacLaine, from the 4th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Yea, who exch.

13th—Lieut. and Adj. H. Havelock to be Capt. without purch. vice Chadwick, dec.

20th—Ensign P. H. Crampton, from the 56th Foot, to be Ensign, vice Macpherson, who exch.

38th—Capt. R. Woodhouse, from h.p. Unatt. to be Capt. vice H. Grimes, who exch.; Capt. J. S. Adamson, from the 63rd Foot, to be Capt. vice Green, who exch.

41st—Lieut. J. Wallace, from the 94th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Jones, who exch.

42nd—Capt. T. Tulloch, from the 94th Foot, to be Capt. vice Macdonald, who exch.

48th—Ensign J. E. Hall to be Lieut. without purch. vice Henderson, who retires; D. Fullerton, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Hall.

56th—Ensign A. Macpherson, from the 20th Foot, to be Ensign, vice Crampton, who exch.

63rd—Capt. G. Green, from the 38th Foot, to be Capt. vice Adamson, who exch.

74th—Lieut. J. Fowler, from the 99th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Fordyce, who exch.

94th—Capt. R. D. Macdonald, from the 42nd Foot, to be Capt. vice Tulloch, who exch.; Lieut. T. Jones, from the 41st Foot, to be Lieut. vice Wallace, who exch.

98th—Lieut. C. Savage, from h.p. 23rd Light Dragoons, to be Lieut. vice Hunter, prom.

99th—Lieut. G. W. Fordyce, from the 7th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Fowler, who exch.

Brevet—Major H. J. Warde, of the 1st Foot, to be Lieut.-Col. in the Army; Capt. G. Brown, of the 32nd Foot, to be Major in the Army.

Memorandum—The appointment of Assist.-Surg. James Anthony Topham, from 10th Foot, to be Assist.-Surg. to the Forces, as stated in Gazette of 4th May, 1858, has not taken place.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

March 19, at Grenada, the Lady of Capt. Gardiner, 76th Regt. of a son.
 May 17, at Cork, the Lady of Lieut. Powell, 10th Regt. of a son.
 At Chelsea, the Lady of Lieut. R. N. Bolton, 84th Regt. of a daughter.
 At Oxford, the Lady of Capt. Robins, R.N. of a son.
 The Lady of Capt. Gibsons, 7th Dragoon Guards, of a son.
 May 21, at Fleet, near Weymouth, the Lady of Lieut. W. Pedder, R.N. of a son.
 May 24, at St. Peter's Port, Jersey, the Lady of Capt. Henvey, R.N. of a son.
 May 25, at Haylands, near Ryde, the Lady of Capt. C. Lock, R.N. of a son.
 At Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Lady of Lieut. Col. Bishopp, C.B. of a son.
 The Lady of Lieut. Col. Barton, of a son.
 June 12, the Lady of Lieut. C. Caldecot, R.N. of a son.
 The Lady of J. Smith, Esq. Surgeon, R.N. of a daughter.
 June 4, at Dundee, the Lady of Capt. Blackwell, 91st Regt. of a daughter.
 At Enniskillen, the Lady of Major Cumberland, 98th Regt. of a daughter.
 At Newry, the Lady of Capt. Custance, 95th Regt. of a son.
 The Lady of Capt. W. Hope, 7th Royal Fusiliers, of a daughter.
 At Island Bridge, the Lady of Lieut. W. Needham, Royal Horse Artillery, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Calcutta, Lieut. Frederick Holder, 13th Light Infantry, to Emma Francis, second daughter of the late John Shum, Esq. of the Bengal Civil Service.
 May 18, Lieut. G. Graham, R.N. commanding H.M.'s cruiser Dove, to Miss Honor Cole, third daughter of W. Cornish, Esq. of Marazion.
 May 21, at Hove, near Brighton, Capt. W. F. Martin, H.N. eldest son of Admiral Sir Byam Martin, to Sophia, second daughter of R. Hurt, Esq. of Wirksworth, Derbyshire.
 At St. George's, Hanover-square, Major-Gen. Sir T. Hawker, to Mary, widow of Capt. the Hon. F. Noel, R.N.
 At Bruges, Capt. Whentley, R.N. to Caroline, second daughter of M. Hope, Esq.
 At Cheltenham, Capt. Campbell, R.N. to Georgiana, daughter of the late Col. Martin.
 Capt. T. W. Pennell, R.N. to Miss McMurdo, late of the Isle of Man.
 At St. Mary's, Lieut. Seacombe, 26th Regt. or Cameronians, to Caroline, daughter of the late Capt. Samuel Peter, of Pereuthan.
 June 13, at St. Mary's, Bryanstone-square, J. D. Simmle, Esq. Surg. R.M.A. to Julia, eldest daughter of the late Col. Clifford, C.B. & K.H.

DEATHS.

Nov. 24, at Paramatta, Capt. A. D. White, h.p. R.E.
 At Moulmein, in the Burman Empire, Capt. Henry Robert Moore, 52nd Regt. eldest son of Lieut. Col. Moore, h.p. 14th Regt.
 March 9, at Meerut, Lieut. John Whitworth, 3rd Regt.

March 20, at Meerut, Lieut. Cooke, 9th Regt.
 April 9, at Calcutta, Major Andrews, 2nd Light Dragoons.
 Lieut. Glover, 55th Regt.
 April 14, at the Island of Ascension, Capt. W. Bate, R.M. Commandant of that Island.
 April 15, at sea, on board the *Parmelia* transport, on passage from the Isle of France, Lieut. F. W. B. Macleod, 55th Regt.
 Ensign James, 26th Regt.
 Lieut. Richardson, 2nd West India Regt.
 At Barbadoes, Assist.-Surg. J. Mellis, M.D. 76th Regt.
 At Zante, Capt. La Guidara, h.p. Greek Light Infantry.
 Major Ryhiner, h.p. Roll's Regt.
 Capt. Tinley, late 3rd R.V.B.
 Capt. Jones, h.p. 39th Regt.
 Capt. M. Adair, Unatt.
 Capt. A. V. S. Forbes, Unatt.
 Staff Surg. Bruff, h.p.
 Lieut. Galpine, late 7th R.V.B.
 Lieut. Webb, late 1st R.V.B.
 Quartermaster Oliver, h.p. 2nd Dragoons.
 At Halifax, Nova Scotia, Lieut. the Hon. W. Crofton, 85th Regt.
 Commissary-Gen. Sir G. Burgemann, h.p.
 At Mannheim, Capt. W. Paterson, R.N. C.B.
 Deputy Commissary-Gen. Coope, h.p.
 Deputy Commissary-Gen. Snelling, h.p.
 On board the *Numa* transport, on passage from Jamaica, Lieut. B. R. Currie, 84th Regt.
 Lieut. Plomket, h.p. Malta Regt.
 Surg. Clough, h.p. Brig. of Guards.
 Assist.-Surg. Dr. Huey.
 Assist.-Surg. Walsh, h.p. 78th Regt.
 Ensign Naghton, 89th Regt.
 At Forfar, Capt. J. Nash, late 26th Regt.
 Ensign Barnes, late 3rd R.V.B.
 At Wimstead, Lieut.-Col. R. Thornton, late Gren. Guards.
 W. Comin, Esq. Deputy Inspector-General of Army Hospitals.
 Capt. W. V. Wallis, late 5th Dragoon Guards.
 At Carrick-on-Shannon, Capt. D. C. Grosse, late R.E.
 May 14, at Ballylough House, Cork, Major-Gen. H. G. Barry, formerly Lieut.-Col. 15th Regt.
 May 16, Lieut. A. Brooking, R.N. late commanding H.M.S. Pike.
 May 17, at Glasgow, W. Ure, Esq. Surg. R.N.
 May 19, at Thames Ditton, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Thomas Brown, K.C.B. of the Hon. East India Company's Service.
 May 20, in Somerset-street, Portman-square, Captain Sir John Strutt Peyton, R.N. K.C.H. He entered the Royal Navy, under the auspices of the illustrious Nelson, October 4, 1797: having served for three years in the *Emerald* frigate, he removed to the *San Josef*, 190, and subsequently to the *St. George*, 98, bearing the flag of his noble patron, in the expedition destined to act against the Northern Confederacy. On his return from the Baltic, he joined the Revolutionary, and subsequently the *Phoenix* and *Eudymion* frigates.
 In 1804, Mr. Peyton joined Lord Nelson in the *Victory*, 100, and a vacancy having occurred in the Mediterranean fleet under his command, he promoted him on the 7th of October, 1805, into the *Canopus*, 80, but subsequently appointed him to the *Ambuscade* frigate, Capt. D'Urban, employed in checking the progress of the French fleet in the Adriatic. By this officer he was placed in command of a small vessel, armed

with the launch's gun, as tender to the frigate. In this vessel he made several prizes; and on one occasion, with only eight men, beat off a French privateer of six guns and thirty men, that came out of Ancona for the express purpose of capturing the British vessel and her prizes.

On this station he remained until 1807, performing many gallant actions (in one of which he lost his right arm), and earning the reputation of an active, enterprising officer. On the 1st of December in that year he was made Commander, and appointed to the Ephra sloop-of-war.

He next accompanied the expedition to Walcheren, and subsequently assisted at Cadix, at the siege of Isle de Leon, and at Lisbon; and having removed to the *Wenzle*, a fine 18-gun brig, in February, 1811, stationed in the Archipelago, he captured the French privateer *Le Roi de Rome*, of 10 guns and forty six men. Previous to this, he had been employed in attendance on the Archduke Francis, and was received with great favour by the King and Queen of Sardinia, who honoured the *Wenzle* with their presence at a ball given on his Majesty's birth-day. On this occasion the King of Sardinia presented her Commander with a snuff-box set round with brilliants.

On the 10th of August, 1812, Captain Peyton was posted into the *Minstrel*, of 20 guns, in which ship, and the *Thames* frigate, to which he removed about the beginning of 1813, he displayed great activity in harassing the enemy, never omitting an occasion to distinguish himself and the officers under his command.

After conveying Lieut.-General Sir John Murray to Alicante, Captain Peyton proceeded to England with despatches, and paid the *Thames* off in September, 1813. His last appointment was to the *Madagascar*, 46, in June, 1836, as Commodore, on the West India station. Here his health suffered severely; and on his return to England, a short time since, it was evident that his constitution had received an irreparable blow. He was in his fifty-third year.

May 21, at Kingsand, near Plymouth, Lieut. R. Gillan, R.N. formerly Resident Agent for Transports at Leith.

May 21, at Brighton, Commissary-General Lamont.

At Edinburgh, J. Morris, Esq. Surg. R.N.

May 24, at Otford, Lieut. Fulton, R.E.

At Galway, Lieut. A. Miller, R.N. commanding revenue cutter *Dolphin*.

At Aberdeen, Lieut. Lesley, R.N.

May 27, Capt. H. Hole, R.M.

Lieut. P. M'Craw, late Adj. Edinburgh Recruiting District.

Colonel Alexander Hamilton, C.B., late of the 30th Regt. This gallant and distinguished officer, who was nearly related to the noble house of Lothian, breathed his last on the morning of the 4th of June, at Woolwich, Kent, to the great regret of all who enjoyed his friendship or acquaintance; and a brighter ornament of his profession perhaps never existed, as his long and arduous services, in our regiments during his whole military career (a period of forty-three years) will fully substantiate.

We find him recorded as an Ensign in the 84th Regiment, on the 1st of April, 1784; but he joined the 30th Foot in that rank on the 2nd April, 1787, employed on recruiting service; he was promoted to Lieutenant 22nd March, 1791; and, in August, 1793, was present at the landing of the British troops at Toulon; and at the storming of Forton Heights the 1st of October; severely wounded the 14th of the same month at Cape Brune; was employed in the expedition to the Island of Corsica in January, 1794, and led the attack on a fortified martello tower on first landing, which was carried; employed at

the storming of Convention Redoubt, the taking of San Fiorenzo, and at the siege of Bastia, in the same island; present in two naval actions with the enemy (then serving on board H.M.S. *Terrible*, in command of a detachment of the 30th Regiment, acting as Marines) on the 14th March and 2nd July, 1795, under the command of Captain (subsequently Admiral) Geo. Campbell, and was fortunate enough to be of great assistance in quelling a serious mutiny on board, whilst at sea, and thanked for his exertions. On the 2nd September, 1795, he was appointed to a company, and employed at the siege of La Vallette; and the reduction of the island of Malta, in 1800, as Brigade-Major to Brigadier-General Graham (now Lord Lyndoch); and afterwards, when the regiment was ordered on the expedition to Egypt, he immediately resigned his staff situation, and joined his corps, although requested by the General commanding to the contrary! He was employed in the expedition to Egypt, under Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and in the actions of the 13th and 21st of March, as also the 17th August, 1801, was thanked in public orders for his conduct in the engagements, by Lieutenant-General Sir John Doyle. On the 1st of April, 1804, Captain Hamilton obtained his Majority; and, after his return from Egypt, was employed in Ireland in the command of several light infantry battalions, and superintended their formation and exercise, under the orders of Major-General De Rottenburg, receiving thanks and certificates relative to that General's sense of "his useful and zealous services on that duty." The 30th Regiment being ordered to join Lord Wellington in Portugal, Major Hamilton was present at the siege of Cadix, and commanded the battalion in the action of Fuentes D'Honor on the 5th May, 1811. On the 4th of June, in the same year, he was promoted to his Lieutenant-Colonelcy, and commanded the battalion at the battle of Salamanca, on the 22nd of July, 1812; and in the action of Villa Mearial, 28th October, same year. On the army going into winter quarters after the retreat from Burgos, Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton was appointed to the command of a provisional battalion, consisting of four companies of the 30th, and also four of the 44th Regiment (the remaining six companies of each being sent to England); and it was particularly noticed by Major-General Sir F. Robinson, in the "high state of discipline and efficiency the battalion was brought to." When ordered home, he joined the depot of the 30th Regiment at Jersey, where he was enabled, from the activity of the recruiting service, to reorganise the battalion in less than three months—and being inspected by Lieutenant-General Donne, that officer expressed the greatest surprise at seeing the battalion so strong, and in such perfect order. The General reported them so eligible for service, that an order from Government arrived directing the immediate embarkation of the battalion, on the 2nd January, 1814, to join General Graham in Holland, where it assisted at the blockade of Antwerp; and afterwards resisted, for several hours, the attack of a line-of-battle ship, and a number of gunboats, at Fort Frederick, on the right bank of the Scheldt, in which the battalion lost a number of men, but defeated the enemy's intention of forming a landing. Lieut.-Colonel Hamilton was employed in various operations and services in the command of the battalion in the Netherlands, during the years 1814-15, and commanded the battalion in the action of Quatre Bras on the 16th June, 1815, where he was severely wounded; and his conduct on that momentous occasion received the thanks of the late Sir Thomas Picton. After the surrender of Paris, he accompanied the battalion to Ireland, where

he remained in command of it until the reduction on the 24th of April, 1817, when he was ordered out to India to take the command of the 1st battalion serving there, which he joined with a detachment of 300 "chosen men." He was breveted a Colonel on the 27th May, 1825, and appointed to the command of the subsidiary force afforded to the Nawab of Secunderabad, and subsequently commanded at Hyderabad for upwards of eight years. He arrived in England in 1830, when he retired from the Service, but retained his rank as a Colonel in the Army.

It will be perceived that Colonel Hamilton's services commenced and concluded with the 30th Regiment (or, as it was familiarly called by the officers and men, "The Old Three Tens"), his career having taken place in the same corps he first joined. By curious coincidences, Colonel Hamilton, also C.B., of the 97th Regiment, whose services (also commenced in the corps he now commands) were attended with a similarity of circumstances as well as name: both were wounded in the leg dangerously while Subalterns;—but Colonel A. Hamilton escaped with his limb, although the tourniquet had thrice encircled his leg preparatory for amputation; Colonel Hamilton, of the 97th, lost his leg at Alkmaar; and, strange to say, the gallant, much esteemed officers are not related. While Major, Colonel A. Hamilton was slightly wounded in the Peninsula, of which he makes no mention in his official returns of services; but the writer of this brief memoir has seen a letter from a General Officer, in which he "hopes Major Hamilton will soon recover from his wound." When in command of the battalion, on the 16th of June, 1815, he had formed square to receive a charge of cavalry, which retired after the onset, which was a desperate attempt to put the battalion *hors de combat*; after waiting some time for their return, considering it probable they were watching an opportunity in an adjacent field, Colonel Hamilton, with that generous solicitude he always evinced for his officers and men, but forgetful that his duties as commanding-officer demanded he should not expose himself, ordered the battalion to stand fast, while he singly approached the hedge to reconnoitre. The cavalry were not visible; but two tirailleurs who had posted themselves in a tree, both fired at the Colonel: one of their shots hit him in the left leg, the ball obliquely passing between the bones. Colonel Hamilton had scarcely regained the square (for his charges was fortunately unscathed) before the cavalry made another onset, and were again repulsed with such loss that they did not renew the attack. This wound sadly galled the gallant officer up to the day of his death; but he never applied for, or received any pension for his wounds—in fact, he refrained from passing his services upon the attention of the authorities, and although he had often been urged by General Sir Edmund Lyons, and other officers of distinction, to apply for the *Belgie Medal* (to which he was entitled), he could never be prevailed upon to do so, alleging that his medals for "Egypt," "Salamanca," "Waterloo," and the "Cross of the Order of the Bath," had been forwarded to him unsolicited! His unassuming deportment caused him to omit many services (which he had rendered) in his official statements; and when these reports were periodically called for, the details were generally collected by the officers (especially the Adjutants) who had served with him; nor must we fail to record the faithful zeal in this respect of many Staff serjeants and regimental clerks, to whom he had absolutely endeared himself by the best attributes which adorn the character of the British officer—for he had been ever one of that class of men who are justly termed the "working" part of the Army, not having been

absent from actual service more than seven months during forty-three years!—and of this short period four months was on medical certificates.]

In the first action in which Colonel Hamilton was wounded, every officer belonging to the 30th was equally unfortunate, and the corps was brought out of the field by two serjeants: one of them was immediately commissioned, and died in 1833 or 1834 a Major (his name was Bircham)—the other, being found ineligible for further promotion, received a handsome sum of money, with which he subsequently retired upon a pension.

When Colonel Hamilton joined the 1st battalion in India, he took with him their present pair of colours, every action on them embroidered having been won by the 2nd battalion (except "Egypt"), and the detachment of stalwart fellows he brought with him were mostly decked with the Waterloo medal, which had been presented to them at Limerick, an appropriate discourse having been delivered on the occasion by the Dean in the Diocesan Cathedral.

An important and dashing affair was performed by the companies of the 30th and 44th Regiments, under the command of Major Hamilton, which has hitherto been unnoticed in the services of the corps; while in the Peninsula, on the 25th of October, 1812, they advanced in line against seventeen pieces of cannon, and carried the adjacent village, taking more prisoners than their own force was composed of: by some unaccountable accident this was not mentioned in the despatches; but the chivalrous Sir Thomas Picton was often heard to say that, "if he lived, the 30th should be done justice." Assuredly, they had not their share of the meed of praise, though even the laurels they wear will stimulate future aspirants.

It is evident, from the severe wounds Colonel Hamilton received, the anguish of which embittered the veteran's latest hours, that he had not a charmed life; but from his "hair-breadth 'scapes," it used to be said by the regiment, "nothing will hit him." This is rather anomalous in expression; but an instance (out of many) is worth relating.

During the attack on Fort Frederick (before referred to), the Colonel had ordered the colours to be planted close by him: at this instant a shot bereft the drum-major of life, cut the colour-staff in twain, and knocked away a leg each from under two privates; it shivered to pieces a plate in which Colonel Hamilton was taking some refreshment, covering him with blood and fragments of human flesh. It was affirmed by several officers and men present that the projectile actually passed under the Colonel's knees as he sat on the ground with the plate upon them. This only appears improbable from the likelihood of the wladage injuring his calves and hams; but there is this much to be said, the shot might not have been of large diameter; and what appears to confirm the idea set forth in the text is, that the plate was thrown up in his face; he himself could never be led into expressing an opinion upon the subject—obviously the miraculous nature of the adventure.*

* There is an analogous instance on record, which is—that when Sir Francis Drake (the celebrated circumnavigator) was lying before Porto Rico, 13th November, 1595, as the principal officers were at supper, a cannon-ball from the fort pierced the cabin, killed Sir Nicholas Clifford, wounded Captain Stratford, mortally wounded Sir Bute Browne, and struck the stool from under Sir Francis Drake, as he was drinking "success to the attack," and he himself was uninjured.

There is a circumstance scarcely, if at all, known, connected with the sad fate of General Ponsonby: Colonel Hamilton had a powerful and beautiful charger, which he wished to dispose of previous to the battle of Quatre Bras (Waterloo), being aware (having had many horses killed under him during his service) that he would only get 25*l*. allowed him in case of a casualty, whereas his charger was worth 100*l*. On the evening of the 15th of June, 1815, General Ponsonby's Aide-de-Camp came to Colonel Hamilton to treat for the horse, but nothing decisive took place, and from not hearing anything more upon the subject, Colonel Hamilton concluded that the General considered that the animal was overvalued; he, therefore, lent him to his own Quartermaster, much to the subsequent dismay of the venerable officer, whose steady old trooper carried the Colonel through the day (at least, until he was wounded)—while the dery Bucephalus upon which the worthy Quartermaster was seated terribly disconcerted him, putting his equitation to a severe test, to the great amusement of the killers and non-effectives in the rear of the army. Had General Ponsonby only sent to Colonel Hamilton to borrow his charger, he might have been spared to return to the beloved partner of his bosom, whose memory was occupying the last thoughts of the

gallant warrior; for it is a fact well known, that General Ponsonby was repeatedly told that his horse was not strong enough for the work he would have to perform. Too fatally true this proved, for assuredly he fell a victim to the incompetence of his "war-horse" to carry him over the clay fields, already saturated by many hours' rain.

Colonel Hamilton has left a widow to lament his loss, who had shared with him the campaigns in the Peninsula, Holland, the Netherlands, and France—who has yet assuaged the closing years of this lamented soldier—and who, in addition to an accomplished daughter, has performed the arduous duties of both parents in educating her two sons—Lieut. A. Hamilton, R.A., and Lieut. W. Hamilton, of the "Buffs," (the former serving with his company in the West Indies, and the latter in the East)—during the protracted sorrows of Colonel Hamilton in India, which deprived their youth of paternal affection and superintendence.

June 4, in Bernard-street, Russell-square, Capt. N. Chadwick, 13th Light Infantry.

At Catisfield, near Fareham, Moses Hawker, Esq. Pursor, K.N.

At Belfast, after a few hours' illness, Capt. Henry H. Willson, Royal Engineers.

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

KEPT AT THE OBSERVATORY OF CAPT. W. H. SMITH, AT BEDFORD.

MAY, 1838.	Six's Thermometer.		At 1 P. M.			Thermometer Inches.	Evaporator Inches.	Winds at 3 P. M.
	Maxim. Degrees.	Minim. Degrees.	Barom. Inches.	Thermom. Degrees.	Hygrom. Farts.			
1	58.9	43.7	29.65	58.8	664	.021	.123	W.S.W. It airs
2	58.6	48.3	29.85	57.5	605	—	.128	E.S.E. light breezes]
3	58.5	48.7	29.93	58.3	586	.127	.120	S.W. light airs
4	59.6	49.0	30.04	59.0	578	—	.110	N. moderate winds
5	61.2	52.8	30.20	61.0	495	—	.129	N. by E. stiff breezes
6	60.6	51.0	30.31	57.6	474	—	.150	N. by E. fresh and clear
7	62.5	50.0	30.30	60.0	480	—	.153	N. fine weather
8	64.5	49.1	30.28	61.5	485	—	.155	N.N.E. magnificent w.
9	65.4	51.8	30.18	64.5	430	—	.170	N. beautiful weather
10	64.8	53.0	30.40	57.1	393	—	.200	E.N.E. fresh breeze
11	63.7	45.2	30.20	59.0	420	—	.160	N.N.E. light breezes, fine
12	60.7	39.4	30.05	60.7	448	—	.155	W. light airs, clear
13	61.9	50.8	31.76	55.4	448	.148	.120	N.E. fresh breezes
14	58.6	47.0	29.44	53.0	446	—	.165	N.N.E. light breezes, fine
15	55.5	44.1	29.83	51.8	445	.018	.170	S.W. variable breeze
16	55.9	43.8	29.88	53.2	434	—	.160	W.S.W. beautiful weather
17	56.2	45.5	29.90	55.8	358	—	.142	N.N.E. nearly calm
18	55.8	41.0	29.95	53.5	426	—	.138	N.E.E. light airs
19	53.8	46.2	29.88	52.2	422	—	.115	S.S.E. fresh breezes
20	53.3	42.8	29.63	53.3	520	.048	.090	E.S.E. light airs, rain
21	56.7	50.8	29.64	56.7	481	—	.100	S. nearly calm
22	56.8	53.0	29.64	56.8	494	.063	.110	S.W. light breezes
23	55.8	50.8	29.81	51.5	505	.105	.080	N.N.W. very variable
24	55.6	49.3	29.97	55.4	536	—	.090	N.N.E. light airs
25	54.9	49.5	30.08	54.2	512	—	.100	N.N.E. light breeze
26	57.8	49.0	30.13	57.5	491	—	.125	N.N.E. beautiful weather
27	57.7	48.4	29.86	55.5	480	—	.150	E. strong breezes
28	56.9	50.2	29.66	56.8	629	.118	.115	S. calm, drizzly
29	57.6	52.0	29.68	56.7	564	.038	.090	W.S.W. fr. breezes
30	60.8	54.2	29.86	60.8	527	—	.142	W.S.W. magnificent w.
31	62.4	55.0	29.95	61.2	532	.235	.098	N.E. calm, heavy rain

EARL ST. VINCENT AND CAPTAIN BRENTON.

" We love the writer, praise his happy vein,
 Graced with the *nécessité* of the sage Montaigne;
 Hence not alone are brighter parts display'd,
 But even the specks of character pourtray'd."

AFFAIRS of some moment have prevented our reading Captain Brenton's new work, the *Life of Earl St. Vincent**, till within these few days past; and though we think it, on the whole, but little calculated to exalt his hero's character, or indeed to alter in any degree that estimate of the veteran's disposition and services which we recently gave, the book is too teeming of nautical events to be passed without special notice. Great delay has occurred in its appearance—the first and principal cause of which we find has been, that Lord Brougham was expected to have written the memoir. We are well aware of the versatile power with which the learned and noble ex-Chancellor can indite, write, and review—but the idea of Lord Brougham and Vaux expending his valuable time, and most multifarious knowledge, on *Naval Biography*! "Let us take any man's horses after that," as Falstaff says.

Captain Brenton certainly possessed greater resources for the undertaking than most men, since he has not only acquired a large experience in the British Navy, and is no tyro in the fields of literature, but he had the additional advantage of confidential intimacy with the Earl in his latter years. The Captain professes to "avoid everything like concealment, extenuation, or flattery," in the course of his narrative; but he instances so many attentions received by himself, and other members of his family, from the old seaman, that rigid impartiality can hardly be expected from a writer who is evidently of a kindly nature, and whose sister appears to have been domesticated, in fact, at Rochetts, his Lordship's seat. As the Earl was made acquainted with the Captain's intention of writing his life, and had freely consented that his letters should be rummaged and his discourses logged for that especial purpose, there is much that will prove interesting to the Service, and much that demands approbation; but the author, apparently mistaking bustle for business, greatly overrates the value of the Admiral's letters, and has placed so much regard on all that his hero said and did, as to have swamped his own narrative, and rendered his work heavy and dormific in consequence. But though iteration, reiteration, redundancy, and abruptness, are the mazy and leading characteristics of the style, yet so much material for thinking rewards the professional reader, and so striking are the amiable intentions of the writer, that we strongly recommend its perusal. This being our conviction as to the general merits of the book, we shall be somewhat discursive in ranging over its pages, and discussing the naval topics therein broached, as well to furnish Captain Brenton with matter of discussion for another edition, as to lodge assistance for the future naval historian in our volumes.

There is one striking peculiarity arising from a perusal of this work, and one which will be apparent even in the course of our citations from

* *Life and Correspondence of John Earl of St. Vincent, G.C.B., Admiral of the Fleet, &c.* By Edward Pelham Brenton, Captain, R.N. 2 vols. 8vo. Colburn. 1838.

it—which is, that the hero and the author are the veritable marine Johnson and Boswell. This not only appears in the attendance danced by one upon the other for years, the dogmatical gravity of the veteran's communications, and the deference with which they were received—but also in the very persons themselves. We hope to give no offence by this estimate, though the proverb doth declare such practice to be odious; but in defence, or palliation, we may quote the sage advice which Dr. Pozz, according to Chalmers, gave to Bozz—"Never be affronted," said he, "at a comparison. I have been compared to many things, but I never was affronted. No, Sir, if they would call *me* a dog, and *you* a canister tied to my tail, I would not be affronted." The similitude is too striking to be overlooked. Here the biographer, like Boswell, was happy in the kind regard and unreserved confidence of his venerable friend, who, as we have said, was fully apprized of his recording intention, and manifested no disapprobation of it. There the biographee, like his grand prototype, was ever *aut Cæsar aut nullus*—the which, in the vulgate, meaneth "cock of the walk;" yet lording it over his companions, male and female, with such method and management as to promote their attachment to him. Even the Captain himself is struck with the force of half of this picture, saying of his hero—"His voice was stentorian, and in his manner and person he often reminded me, in some respects, of Mr. Boswell's description of Johnson: he was not so tall, but stout-made, broad-chested, and had a remarkably commanding appearance." To which he might have added that, like old Sam, the Admiral,

"Though proudly splenetic, yet idly vain,
Accepted flattery, and dealt disdain."

A brief sketch of the career of this naval worthy may be necessary to precurse the remarks we shall have to make, as well to freshen the memory of his cotemporaries, as to give a bird's-eye view of his services to those who may not have made themselves acquainted therewith: and, in making this sketch, we shall not always consider it necessary to be towed along by the work before us.

John Jervis, of a highly respectable stock, was born at Meaford, in Staffordshire, on the 9th of January, 1734, and was intended for the law by his father, who held the situations of Solicitor to the Admiralty, and Treasurer of Greenwich Hospital. But this plan was frustrated by an exhortation from the family coachman,—“O don't be a lawyer, Master Jackey, for all lawyers are rogues.” Thus instigated, the youngster quitted the study of Greek and Latin, in which he had made great proficiency, and became a Midshipman on board the Gloucester, of 50 guns, on the Jamaica station, in 1748. This ship bearing the broad pendant of the Hon. G. Townshend, the boy might have fallen into the remissness which is too frequently a consequence of commencing naval servitude on board the Commander-in-Chief; but he wisely adopted that admirable preventive, the volunteering into small vessels, by which activity and professional knowledge are at once promoted.

Mr. Jervis gave a very early indication of that independent spirit, and strong principle of economy, which stamped his future years. We will submit the anecdote in his own words; yet we cannot but express surprise that a parent, holding lucrative places, should drive a son to extremities which might have wrecked a less provident lad:—"My

father," said he, "had a very large family, with limited means. He gave me 20*l*. at starting, and that was all he ever gave me. After I had been a considerable time at the station, I drew for twenty more, but the bill came back protested. I was mortified at this rebuke, and made a promise, which I have ever kept, that I never would draw another bill without a certainty of its being paid. I immediately changed my mode of living; quitted my mess, lived alone, and took up the ship's allowance, which I found quite sufficient; washed and mended my own clothes; made a pair of trousers out of the ticking of my bed; and, having by these means saved as much money as would redeem my honour, I took up my bill; and from that time to this" [*he said this with great energy*] "I have taken care to keep within my means." This was highly creditable to his honesty, but rather too coarsely practical for general adoption. However, all good officers ought to steer clear of that Scylla and Charybdis of money-matters, and consequent neglect of duty,—the being arrested, and put under an arrest.

On the 19th of February, 1755, Mr. Jervis was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, and served in the *Namur*, with Sir Charles Saunders, at the siege and capture of Quebec, in 1759. Here he displayed such promptitude of conduct, that Sir Charles raised him to the rank of acting Commander of the *Porcupine* sloop, and the appointment was confirmed from home. He served also in the *Albany*, a vessel of the same class; and was acting in the *Experiment*, of 20 guns, when he had the fortune to signalize himself in action with a Moorish xebec of superior force, which, after a sharp conflict, was beaten off. Having returned to England, he commanded the *Unicorn* frigate, by order, till October, 1760, when he was posted into the Gosport, 44, which ship he retained till the peace of 1763. From this statement it is clear that, though his *Governor* declined "forking out" money, he must have backed him with the whole force of his Board interest, as it is unlikely that merit alone would have secured such progress and employment.

After passing half-a-dozen years on half-pay, Captain Jervis began to think a home on the deep was very preferable to the want of one ashore, and obtained the *Alarm*, a frigate of 32 guns, for the Mediterranean station, in 1769. This ship was of some notoriety, both as a well-constructed one, and as being the first copper-bottomed vessel in the Navy. She moreover bequeathed her name to a reef of rocks in Tangier Bay, upon which she struck and beat heavily; besides which, she narrowly escaped destruction outside the port of Marseilles; but, as these perils might have been avoided by a proper foresight, we do not join in blazoning the escape with the brilliant colours which the several biographers of the commander employ. He himself must have experienced that the lyric bard was right, in saying—

"Scandit eura vitiosa aristas naves."

Both Charnock and Marshall here relate an anecdote in honour of the state and discipline of the *Alarm*. In August, 1770, being at Villa Franca, the ship was visited by the Duc de Chablais, brother to the King of Sardinia, who was so gratified at what he witnessed, and the attentions paid him, that he presented Captain Jervis with a valuable diamond ring, enclosed in a gold snuff-box, besides making handsome presents to the rest of the officers, and a sum of money to be distributed among the crew. The Duc was afterwards more habituated to the

hospitality of British men-of-war, and, when he became King, could pay a visit afloat in a less expensive manner; as we happen to know.

The *Alaric* was paid off in 1773; and, after another spell of about a couple of years on shore, Captain Jervis was appointed to the *Foudroyant*, of 80 guns—the finest two-decker of the day,—another proof of the interest which backed him. In this ship he had the honour of being one of the seconds to Admiral Keppel in the action with Count D'Orville's, and manifested as much spirit and resolution as the circumstances of such an encounter permitted. The casualties of the *Foudroyant*, besides her being much cut up in spars and rigging, amounted to five killed and eighteen wounded—a loss which one of our hero's biographers thinks so small as to demand explanation, and thereupon he thus excogitates:—"His gallantry not only reflected honour on himself, but may be considered as having been in no small degree instrumental to the preservation of many lives from among his people, which must have been lost had the force of his attack been less animated." Great admiration has also been expressed at the testimony which he gave upon the consequent court-martial; but, as the clamorous interest of Keppel's trial* was based on the acrimony of party-politics, and as the witness was an out-and-out partisan on the chief's *side*—*malgré* our author's delicate doubts on the subject,—much of the unction poured over the commanding Admiral may have been as much owing to feeling as to judgment. The evidence of Jervis was, however, clear, consistent, important, and manly; and one part especially pleases us. In her shattered state, the *Foudroyant* was not in a condition to chase; but she kept her station next to the *Victory*, as far to windward as possible:—"I was covetous of wind," said the gallant seaman, "because, disabled as I then was, I conceived the advantage of the wind could carry me again into action."

The month of April, 1782, so lavish of laurels to Rodney, was also the epoch of a brilliant day in the career of Jervis. Being then under the orders of Vice-Admiral Barrington, chase was given to a French convoy, when the *Foudroyant*, having outsailed her companions, brought the *Pégase*, a capital ship of 74 guns and 700 men, to a close night action, and compelled her to surrender, after she had suffered a carnage of 80 killed and wounded, while on our side there were only Captain Jervis and four seamen slightly hurt. The brave veteran furnished our author with so characteristic an anecdote respecting this affair, that we cannot but copy it. "On our way into port," said he, "the French captain showed me the copy of a letter which he had written to the Minister of the Marine, giving an account of his capture, and asked my opinion of it. I read it, and returned it to him, saying, 'I had but one objection, namely, that not one word of it was true.'—'*Mais comment! pas vrai?*' replied the Frenchman. 'No, sir, not one word of it is true,' I

* Burke assisted Keppel on his trial. After his acquittal the freedom of London was presented to him in a box of *heart of oak*, and on the same day Rodney received the same compliment, in a box of *gold*. The former was thought to have shown too much *prudence* in presence of the enemy; the latter was known to be a little embarrassed in his affairs. Hence the epigram—

"Each favourite's defective part,
 Satiric cits, you've told,
 For cautious Keppel wanted *heart*,
 • And gallant Rodney, *gold*."

repeated; 'but you can send it if you please.' He did send it, sir; and, when he was tried for the loss of his ship, the letter was produced: he was dismissed the service, and his sword broken over his head."

This action was greatly lauded and rewarded, for Jervis had the then unusual honour of being decorated with the insignia of the Bath, and his arms were blazoned with a thunderbolt and a pegasus, the symbols of the two ships. But, though his name became thus celebrated in all circles, Captain Brenton is very indignant that the praise was not universal and indiscriminate, observing that, "if a Captain in the Navy were to be roasted, another would always be found ready to turn the spit." It is too true, that while a naval hero may be exulting in having done the State a service, there will never want some slavish rascal at his elbow to remind him that he is but a mortal; but, while we acknowledge with regret that an envious spirit has been deeply injurious to the best interests of the service, we cannot altogether agree in the adaptation of the aphorism. He says, "under a representation of the above engagement, the envious hands of a brother officer wrote—*No room to insert, eleven sail of the line looking on.*" Now, in admitting the gallantry and address of the attack, we feel quite at liberty to consider that its merits, to say the least, were most fully estimated, since there was a fleet at hand, and the Foudroyant was very superior in bulk and force to her opponent. Both ships were on the home station shortly afterwards, and the disparity between them was readily seen, as we have been informed by eye-witnesses. We once visited the Pegase, when she struck us as a roomy 74; but the best criterion after all is by figures. We will here give the exact dimensions of both vessels, from the Navy-office records:—

	Foudroyant.		Pegase.	
	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
Length over all	195	6	189	4
Length of lower gun-deck	180	5	178	11
Length of keel	147	3	145	3
Extreme breadth	50	3	47	11
Depth of hold	23	0	21	5
Tonnage	1983		1778	

In giving these particulars, we must observe that our author is in error when he states that "at this present day" the Foudroyant has been eighty years at sea:—the ship now bearing that name was built at Plymouth, in 1798, and is larger than her predecessor by nearly 200 tons.

In October, 1782, the Foudroyant formed one of the van of Lord Howe's fleet, in the relief of Gibraltar, and, in the skirmish with the combined enemies' armament, which took place outside the Strait, had 4 men killed and 8 wounded. Early in the following year Sir John quitted his favourite ship, and hoisted his broad pendant in the Salisbury, 50, as Commodore of a small squadron destined for a secret expedition. The preliminaries for peace, however, being signed in a very few days after he had received this commission, the project was, of course, abandoned, and he again betook himself to shore life.

In June, 1783, Sir John Jervis married his cousin Martha, daughter of Chief Baron Parker. By that lady, who died in 1816, he had no issue. Talking some years afterwards to Captain Brenton at Rochetta, the old sailor remarked that the year 1782 was very memorable for him, "I committed three great faults about that time," he said. "I got

knighted, I got married, and I got into Parliament." This is not correct, since, by attending to our dates, it will be seen that his so-called great faults were committed in three successive years.

Sir John Jervis sat in Parliament for Launceston in 1784, and, at the general election in that year, was returned for Yarmouth. He afterwards became one of a board of officers convened to investigate and report on the expediency of a plan for better securing the dockyards at Portsmouth and Plymouth. On this occasion he protested against any other protection than that of the Navy, as the undertaking of fortifications was expensive, and the proposed garrisons were large. The division on this debate was—Ayes, 169; Noes, 169, when the Speaker gave his casting vote against the motion. But, though the question was thus disposed of, we see no great traces of either wisdom or knowledge in the conclusions our officer arrived at, albeit his decision may have been thoroughly conscientious. Recent experience had shown him that our naval force was not able to keep the command of the Channel, and in 1779 it was deliberated whether we should set fire to the defenceless arsenal at Plymouth, until it was suggested that the enemy could do no worse. Nor do we more admire Sir John's perception, when he supported the plan for taking the copper sheathing off the ships' bottoms while they should remain in ordinary. It is not so much the being unacquainted with the exact bearings of abstract cases that we quarrel with, as for the indulging in strong prejudices upon unstudied questions. It encourages the very mischievous principle of answers and opinions on any subject, whether acquainted with it or not.

The same censure does not follow Sir John's whole parliamentary career, and in his advocacy of seamen he was quite "at home." Indeed, the strenuous, though unsuccessful, exertions he made in claiming the rank of Rear-Admiral for the meritorious Captain Brodie, ought never to be forgotten.

On the 21st of September, 1790, Sir John was raised to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the Blue; but, except hoisting his flag on board that dull barky, the *Prince*, 98 (ycleped, from her leewardly qualities, the *Haystack*), in consequence of the apprehended rupture with Spain relative to Nootka Sound, he diligently attended to his senatorial duties till the close of 1793. He then accepted the command of a squadron equipped for the West Indies, and destined to act in conjunction with a formidable land-force under Sir Charles Grey, against the French settlements in that quarter. The expedition was one of intense excitement and promise, as we can state from the testimony of many valuable friends who served in it; and perhaps there never was an armament in which a finer body of naval and military youths opened their career.

On the 26th of November, Sir John Jervis, now a Vice-Admiral, sailed from Portsmouth, with his flag flying on board the *Boyne* of 96 guns, the most splendid and best-finished ship of her class. Having rendezvoused at Barbadoes, the forces sailed from Carlisle Bay on the 3rd of February, 1794, two days after which they commenced their arduous operations; and the rapid fall of Martinico, St. Lucia, and Guadeloupe was a consequence of the gallantry and skill with which they were attacked, and every opposition overborne. By the 20th of April those beautiful colonies were subdued, and their surrender put Great Britain, for the moment, in undisturbed possession of all the

Caribbean Islands. The tidings of this success were received in London with great exultation. The colours sent to his Majesty as trophies were deposited in St. Paul's cathedral, and the Park and Tower guns roared their applause.

Scarcely, however, had the echoes of the rejoicing artillery died away, ere an utterly unexpected reverse took place, and gave a sudden and fatal turn to the issue of the toilsome though brilliant campaign. A petty French armament, not exceeding four ships of war, the largest mounting only 50 guns, and five transports bearing about 1500 soldiers, aided by a coincidence of lucky events, had the address to land at Guadaloupe, under the command of the able, profligate, and notorious Victor Hugues. Every effort was made by our army, seconded equally by the arduous exertions of the fleet, to counteract this misfortune; but such were the ravages made by disease* and fatigue, that they were unable to offer an effectual check to those who, by promulgating a decree of liberty and free quarter to the negroes, and disseminating leveling principles among the other classes, instantly became both strong and desperate. The contest was brief, but severe. Guadaloupe surrendered by capitulation after a brave defence, in which 2000 French and blacks were destroyed. "Every endeavour," says Captain Brenton, "was resorted to, to have the French royalists included in the capitulation, but in vain. Twenty-five only of the officers were allowed to go off in a covered boat, and reached the British ships in safety. Two others ran down to the beach in the hope of getting into the same boat, but, finding they were too late, shot themselves on the spot. The infamous Victor Hugues, second in atrocity to none of his countrymen, even in those days of terror, erected a guillotine, and struck off the heads of about fifty of these brave but unfortunate men. The others were tied hand to hand, and, being drawn up on the sides of those trenches which their valour had so well defended, were fired at by recruits; and the living, the dead, and the wounded, all falling together, were instantly buried in one common grave."

Harassed, fatigued, and debilitated in health, by his hopeless exertions to frustrate the intentions of the active enemy, Sir John Jervis returned to England in January, 1795; where, soon afterwards, as if to close the chain of calamity, his noble ship caught fire, burnt to the water's edge, and blew up, an accident by which the Admiral lost his luggage and sea-stock, and papers of many years' collection. A gallant old officer, who was desperately wounded in the storming of Fort Fleur d'Épée, reciting the alternate success and disaster of the campaign to us, suddenly exclaimed—"But there was destiny in it—'twas win first and lose last."

Our Admiral had now to encounter the clamour and acrimony which his unlucky reverse had given rise to. As is too often the case in such matters, the House of Commons was made the arena for fulminating calumny and falsehood; but the charges were met so promptly, that a resolution conclusively and unequivocally declared—"That the House cordially persevere in the vote of thanks" unanimously passed to Sir Charles Grey and Sir John Jervis, with the officers and men under their

* As a proof how much more fatal the climate was than the sword, it may be stated that in this campaign 170 army officers died of the yellow fever, and only 27 were killed, or died of their wounds.

command, for the eminent and distinguished services which they had rendered to their country." Captain Brenton says this resolution was agreed to by a "very considerable majority;" we have not the means of reference at hand, but have always understood that it was carried with only one dissentient voice. About the same time the freedom of the city of London was conferred on both the commanders, in gold boxes, thus affording another proof of public approbation of their conduct.

Our author's sixth chapter opens with assuring us, that "already the uncommon capacity and resources" of his hero must be apparent; but we apprehend that few of his unprofessional readers will acknowledge that he has, as yet, put them in possession of sufficient facts, or reasoning, to decide either upon those qualities, or make an estimate of the "political foresight" to which he fondly joins them. But proceed we to the incidents of the career.

Sir John was advanced to the rank of Admiral of the Blue on the 1st of June, 1795, and selected to command on the Mediterranean station. In announcing this very important appointment, Brenton takes a retrospective view of the humdrum affairs called Hotham's battles; in which we are inclined to go his whole lengths as to strategy, execution, and results. But we must clap a rider upon his remarks on the "woful victory" of the 14th of March, in order to render the account more circumstantially correct. He tells us that "the *Illustrious* and *Courageux*, two of our best 74's, each lost their main and mizen masts, and the other ships of the van suffered so much as to render them for a time unfit for service. * * * The effects of this victory were most disastrous to us. The *Illustrious*, commanded by Captain Frederick, lost many of her lower-deck ports, and was in consequence compelled to run on shore to save her from foundering." For the substance of these remarks, the Captain is doubtlessly indebted to the lengthy yet indefinite letter of Vice-Admiral Hotham; but, though that officer considered that his van was not in a plight to renew the combat, we happen to know, from the oral testimony of the late Admiral Freemantle and others, that, except the two ships above named, with the *Bedford* and *Captain*, all the fleet was in full condition for fight, and three of the van, out of five, almost unhurt. Several of the enemy were more mauled than we were, especially the *Duquesne*, *Tonnant*, and *Victoire*; and in the prizes alone—the *Ca Ira*, of 80, and the *Censeur* of 74 guns—the loss in killed and wounded (though our author will find they did not *each* lose 400 men) considerably exceeded that in all our ships together.

With respect to the *Illustrious*, the loss of "many lower-deck ports" would indeed have caused a fearful rush of water, but the assertion is incorrect; and we will relate the fate of that gallant ship, on the living authority of an informant who was then a Lieutenant on board her. After being warmly engaged with three French men-of-war, two of which were 80's, for upwards of three hours, she was so disabled by the loss of *all* her masts, that she was taken in tow by the *Meleager* frigate, commanded by the present Sir George Cockburn, and bore up for Leghorn. Having sustained a loss of 20 killed and 70 wounded—with a Lieutenant, 2 petty officers, and 50 seamen absent in possession of the *Ca Ira*—the complement was reduced by 143; and the residue were so knocked up with constant fatigue, that it required all the address

of the brave Captain Frederick to meet the exigence. A gale of wind sprung up from the southward, in the night, while the frigate was staggering under a press of sail to weather the Malora shoal, when, at about one o'clock, in the middle watch, the tow-rope broke, and the great sea running precluded its being recovered. The ship was therefore brought-to, as well as could be managed in her make-shift state. On the following day a heavy squall carried their jury mizen-mast away; and about the same time a shot was discovered to be loose in the third gun on the lower-deck. Every exertion was now made which experience could suggest and spirit execute; but before a sail could be hoisted on the stump of the fore-mast to get her head round on the other tack, the gun went off and blew out the port. She now wore, to prevent her from filling, but fell bodily to leeward; when, from what we know of the locality, had both anchors been let go in about twenty fathoms water, we have no doubt whatever of her riding it out. Instead of that, she was allowed to drift into shallow water, where first the small-bower anchor was dropped, and when its cable had parted the best-bower was cut away. But the ship had now driven on shore, near Lavenza, where she was burnt. The particulars of this unfortunate incident will be better understood, when we acquaint the reader with what our author has omitted, both in his *Naval History* and the *Life of St. Vincent*, that the action was fought a little to the eastward of Porto Fino, on the western Riviera of Genoa.

One word more upon this battle, which, however indecisive, procured a peerage for the British Commander; at which perhaps he was as much surprised as were the Captains of his fleet, and the poet who, talking of the rejoicings with which he was to be received, shrewdly asks—

“Suppose a patriot sage should cross thy way,
And claiming silence, ask in manly tone,
‘What for these honours, Hotham, hast thou done?’
Hotham! now what the devil wouldst thou say?”

From the enumeration of the enemy's fleet at the foot of the Admiral's Gazette-letter, the public understood the action of the 14th to have been fought against a very superior force, which was not the fact. On the 12th, indeed, when first fell in with, they numbered a ship more than on our side, but in the actual engagement they had one less, the *Sans Culottes*, of 120 guns, and the *Mercure*, 74, having left them, so that only thirteen two-deckers remained; the British being then four three-deckers and eleven two-deckers, including the *Tancredi*, a Neapolitan 74, commanded by the brave and unfortunate Marquis Carraccioli. This credence even went so far, that an engraving shows a mighty first-rate bearing the French flag; and a writer in the *Naval Chronicle* asserts that the *Sans Culottes* was so severely handled by Captain Frederick and others, “that it was a principal cause of her quitting her own fleet, and with difficulty reached Genoa, during a gale that succeeded the action.” This reads precise enough, but is nevertheless utterly untrue, for the ship in question never fired an angry gun, but was snug inside the mole of *la Citta Superba* during the whole time of the battle! But, though out of the combat, she blew a loud trumpet. The large and beautiful Neapolitan frigate, the *Minerva*, attached to our fleet, was sent to Leghorn with the announcement of the action; on which occasion Don Giuseppe Almagro, her commander, entered into details rather

unpleasant to republican ears. Whereupon the following missive was addressed to him from the commander of the soldiers on board the run-away three-decker :

“ On board the *Sans Culottes*, at Genoa,
1st of *Germinal*, in 3rd year of Republic.

“ **LIBERTY!** Perish the Tyrants and their Slaves. **EQUALITY!**

“ I have received, Sir, a copy of the letter which you have written to the Neapolitan Consul at Leghorn, dated March 18th, and recognised in it the bravado and dastardly spirit of your nation.

“ Bravado, because it contains false statements, speaking of a battle gained by the slaves of Albion and Naples, while they required five of their large ships to combat but two of ours, and while, out of their five, four have been as badly treated as our two.

“ Dastardly, because I have known it ever since the siege of Toulon, and your troops are so despicable to my sight, that, were I to fall in at the head of a Republican detachment with a corps of your countrymen, I would regret wasting powder and ball to kill them, and order them to be knocked on the head with the butt-end of the musket.

“ A freeman who abhors slavery tells the slaves what he thinks, and what he would do.

“ In consequence, I declare to you that, if ever I fall in with you, I will compel you to own that what I think of your nation is real truth, and that none but a coxcomb can send in such an account as yours.

(Signed) “ *The Republican General LAHARPE.**”

To return. Sir John Jervis embarked on board the *Lively* frigate, commanded by Lord Garlies, who had served with him in the West Indian campaign. This ship sailed from Portsmouth on the 11th of November, 1795, and reached San Fiorenzo Bay, in Corsica, late in the month of December. Our biographer then states—“ The very first act on his arrival showed the energy with which he was determined to proceed. He wished the frigate to be immediately moored; but it was calm, and she would not take her cable. The signal was made for boats to tow. They all assembled, and, by the Admiral's directions, towed her astern into the position he wished. When she had taken out her two cables, the other anchor was let go, the boats dismissed, and the ship moored in a very few minutes. This may be considered a trifling incident, but it shows him as prompt on small, as we shall see he was on great occasions. Some officers would have waited patiently for a breeze of wind, to veer out the cable; but Sir John Jervis, whether in mooring a frigate, suppressing a mutiny, or attacking an enemy double his force, acted always with a promptitude and decision so well typified in his coat of arms—the eagle darting the thunderbolt.”

This glowing paragraph is so clear and succinct, that we are somewhat reluctant to interfere with it, except that our object is, as we have said, to assist naval records by facts; and these facts we announce while living vouchers are obtainable. Now for our picture of this “trifling incident.” When Sir John Jervis arrived in San Fiorenzo Bay, it was blowing a heavy gale of wind right in. The *Lively* anchored in the outer roads, and there was not any communication with the fleet for twenty-four hours after the Admiral's arrival—a point easily ascertainable by reference to the log-books. On the following day the weather moderated, when the frigate, with Sir John still on board, shifted

* Laharpe, who united the discordant qualities of intrepidity and insolence, was killed in action with Beaulieu in the following year. Captain Althage had plotted an interview with him.

her berth, and joined the ships in the inner road, under so fine a breeze that no boats were necessary to assist in mooring her.

Sir John, having assumed the chief command, made such arrangements for his multifarious duties as the occasion demanded and his means afforded. The blockade of Toulon was well regulated, and strictly maintained; but, when the Spanish Court had been cajoled and terrified into an alliance with France, the situation in which he found himself was one requiring all the nerve and fearlessness of responsibility he was so well known to possess. The grand difficulty was to procure exact information; conflicting statements and astounding facts followed in rapid succession, yet rumour and confirmation were continually at variance. Hence, perhaps, there seldom was a period to which the couplet was more adapted—

“ When high events are on the gale,
Each hour brings a varying tale.”

In order to avoid the inconvenience, and even danger, of being enclosed between two enemies, the weakest of whom was in ostensible force very superior to himself, the Admiral quitted the Mediterranean and repaired to Lisbon, whence he could watch the motions of the Spanish fleet at Cadiz. During this critical time he had to maintain a correspondence with our Consuls in Italy and Barbary, to make arrangements for the evacuation of Corsica, and to plot and contrive the most rigorous husbandry of his scant stock of stores and provisions; these, together with the increasing power of the French arms, and the strange defection of Rear-Admiral Mann and his squadron from his own fleet, would have shaken a less strong mind than that of Sir John. His exertions, however, were commensurate with the occasion for them.

Still the situation was most critical, since the unlooked for departure of Mann, with his 90-gun ship and six 74's, for England, left Sir John with only ten sail of the line to cope with treble that number of the enemy. In case of defeat, the Rear-Admiral had been fearfully accountable to the nation for his neglect of the earnest and repeated orders of his Commander-in-Chief; and it is singular that the affair was never publicly scrutinized. The feelings of the fleet on the occasion may be judged by what Collingwood wrote:—“ We waited in St. Fiorenzo Bay, with the utmost impatience, for Admiral Mann, whose junction at one time seemed absolutely necessary to our safety. We were all eyes in looking westward from the mountain tops, but we looked in vain. The Spanish fleet, nearly double our numbers, were cruising almost in view, and our reconnoitering frigates sometimes got almost amongst them, while we expected them hourly to be joined by the French fleet, who had already possession of the harbour in which we lay.” But no Mann appeared; and, as the enemy began to annoy us from the shore, we sailed on the 2nd of November. We arrived at Gibraltar on the 1st instant; and judge of our surprise to find that Admiral Mann and his squadron had gone to England! He is well known to be as brave a man as any in the world, and no one has more anxiety to do what is right. I am confident he always means the best; but the thing is incomprehensible, and God knows by what arguments he will justify it.” Fortunately the disparity of force between our fleet and that of the enemy was, in some degree, reduced by the junction of Rear-Admiral Parker, with five men-of-war, on the 6th of February, 1797.

Although this was some accession of strength, it was by no means

equal to what was required; and the retention of Mann's ships would have rendered that success certain, to which mere accident and fortune so largely contributed. No grand or national interests ought ever to be left to chance.

Such was the situation of our Admiral, when, early on the morning of the 14th of February—only a week after the arrival of the reinforcement—the grand fleet of Spain was discovered to the southward, off Cape St. Vincent. It consisted of twenty-seven sail of the line, twelve frigates, and a brig, in which were the Santissima Trinidad, of 136 guns, six ships of 112, two of 84, and eighteen of 74 guns; and, independently of the superiority of numbers which they possessed, the enemy had the additional advantage of being so near to their own ports, that even in case of discomfiture they could retire without dreading the consequences of pursuit. The responsibility attached to encountering so vast a disparity of force would have justified the bravest man in declining such a contest,—but Jervis, seizing the brilliant opportunity with a promptitude that commanded success, determined to hazard an attack. His strength was fifteen men of war, four frigates, two sloops, and a cutter, and his line was composed of the Victory and Britannia, of 100 guns each, three ships of 98, eight of 74, and one of 64 guns.

The morn, big with the fate of Jervis and Cordova, broke heavily. The wind was at W. by S., and the weather extremely hazy. At half-past ten the enemy's fleet became visible to all the squadron, and appeared in two divisions, in no regular order, the ships first discovered and subsequently captured being separated from and to leeward of the main body of the fleet. The British line, consisting only of the fifteen ships above mentioned, was formed in the most compact order of sailing, in two columns; and, by carrying a press of sail, pushed without delay or hesitation in between the two divisions of the enemy before they had time to connect and form a regular order of battle; passing through them in a line formed with the utmost celerity, they tacked, and thereby cut the Santissima Trinidad, and one-third of the Spanish force, from the main body. This clever evolution, and the boldness of front with which it was executed, were sufficient to strike terror into the enemy, and lead to the consequences which followed. At about half-past eleven the signal was made to engage, and it was this time that the van, led by Troubridge in the Culloden, had approached the enemy.

To describe distinctly the various evolutions of the ships, to expatiate on the conduct of the heroes who commanded them, and to detail the numerous instances of individual bravery displayed in this engagement, would far exceed our limits. It must here suffice, that after a long and arduous contest, in which the skill, activity, and bravery, on one side, were as conspicuous as the vast superiority of numbers on the other, the Salvador del Mundo, of 112 guns, principally sickened by the Excellent and Irresistible, hauled down her flag as the Victory advanced to rake her; and at that time the San Ysidro, 74, had surrendered. The San Nicolas, of 80 guns, was boarded in the boldest manner by a party from Commodore Nelson's ship, the Captain, led by Lieutenant Berry, and joined by the Commodore himself, whose eagerness and intrepidity no danger could repress, and the ship was quickly carried by the assailants. The British were here annoyed by musketry from the San Josef, which was directly amidships on the weather-beam of the San Nicolas. The Commodore, confiding in the courage of his seamen, then resolved

to advance into that ship, three-decker as she was, and undauntedly headed his boarders in this fresh attack, which was equally crowned with success. The Santissima Trinidad, mainly from the hammering she received from the gallant Frederick of the Blenheim, was dreadfully cut up, and nearly falling into the hands of the victors; but her retreat was facilitated by the approach of the ships which had been cut off at the commencement of the action, and had now almost worked up, inasmuch that it required a second exertion of ability and nautical knowledge not inferior to the first to enable our Admiral to retain the advantage he had gained, and secure those substantial proofs of victory which were then in his possession. Evening at length closed the contest, or it is not unlikely, from what we now know of the disorderly state of the enemy, that more trophies had fallen to our lot. Much of the glory of the day was owing to the transcendent exertions of the ships on the larboard tack, of which those that suffered most were the Captain,* Blenheim, Culloden, Excellent, and Irresistible. The British had in all 73 killed, and 223 wounded. The carnage in the Spanish fleet must have been dreadful. Their accounts admitted that 200 were slain or disabled in the Santissima Trinidad alone; and in the four captured vessels, the only ones which we could gain the truth about, the loss amounted to 261 killed, and 342 wounded.

We have already expressed ourselves so fully upon this splendid encounter, in the strictures upon Captain Brenton's "Naval History," that we have but little to add. Our author apologises for the omission of every officer's name, except that of Sir Robert Calder, the Admiral's Captain, in the official Gazette, on the ground that Sir John Jervis "sought to avoid those jealousies, injurious to the service, which had been produced by other letters, under similar circumstances." A truly notable reason! This must be based on the same principle which led the village pedagogue to make his unkempt urchins "skip and go on," when a regular "jaw-breaker" impeded the powers of spelling of both master and scholars. Even if the dashing gallantry and cool bravery of Collingwood, Troubridge, Frederick, and Martin, were to be passed over, surely a sense of public duty ought to have prompted the naming of Nelson, without whose neglect of orders the affair might have been a mere *mêlée*, unattended with prizes, and the chief might have at the utmost been Baron Jervis, instead of his more consequential and immediate elevation to an earldom and pension.

Captain Brenton also seeks to excuse the blamable brevity of this official letter, under the plea that Sir John "hated pompous verbosity, seeking to tell his story in few words, and to leave his deeds to speak for themselves." Such a feeling is not quite the qualification of a public servant in public trust, for it is not "his deeds," but the country's service, that he is to record and report; and we must say that we nowhere in the letters before us trace any symptoms of disdressing modesty. In Keppel's action, he declares he "passed through the most infernal

* We entertain a similar antipathy to this most unmeaning name for a ship, with that which Captain Brenton expresses. Why, in the name of wonder, while we have worthies of the Army, Navy, and State, whom we cannot too much commemorate, why, we ask, should a Fly, a Dromedary, a Spider, a Weasel, an Elephant, a Quail, a Goldfinch, a Hyacinth, a Jasper, an Onyx, a Kangaroo, a Mistletoe, a Stag, a Grasshopper, or others of those most inappropriate names, which have been allowed to pollute our naval nomenclature, have ever obtained?

fire he ever saw or heard of," and, by his own showing to Mr. Jackson, one of the Admiralty Secretaries, his ship behaved better than any of the rest; adding, "keep this to yourself, unless you hear too much said in praise of others." Again, writing to Lady Spencer, in 1798, he says his fleet, owing to his own maintenance of exact discipline, has performed services "of which there is no parallel in the page of history." To Lord Spencer, in February, 1799, he writes,—“I will venture to assert, that no officer in his Majesty's service, but myself, would have hazarded what I have done.” Soon afterwards he tells Nelson that he has become cautious in offering advice to Ministers, “though, God knows, I have taken a greater degree of responsibility on my shoulders than was ever imposed upon my predecessors in any age or country.” In 1805 he tells Mr. Travers, “All the sluices of corruption have been opened since I left the Admiralty.” In the following year, he assures Lord Howick, that, if he were to detail the improvement made throughout the fleet since he was last placed at the head of it, “it would have the appearance of puffing.” To another First Lord of the Admiralty, in 1807, he is happy in having restored the Channel fleet to the vigour in which he had left it seven years before; and a contempt for many able men and measures breathes throughout the correspondence. Now, though all these assertions may be based in truth, they show no tinge of *mauvaise honte*.

The battle of Valentine's Day broke the spirit of the Spanish navy, and bitterly exasperated the Court of Madrid, whose vengeance was wreaked in the degradation of many of the luckless officers of the defeated fleet—while Cordova, the Commander-in-Chief, was broke, rendered incapable of ever holding any public office, and forbidden to appear at Court, or in any of the seaport towns. Despairing of success in grand engagements, they now fitted out a horde of privateers at the arsenal of Caraccas, which were so equipped that, by whipping out their masts, passing under the arch of the bridge of Zuazo, and taking them in again when through, they could issue forth by the *Bocca di Sancti Petri* unobserved, while our in-shore squadron were blockading the mouth of Cadiz Bay. But the Admiral, having got wind of this, stationed the Meleager and Raven to frustrate the design. Captain Brenton, in giving Sir John's letter on this head, says, in an explanatory note—“The city and fortifications of Cadiz are insulated by the artificial canal of San Pedro.” We can only say that Nature would dispute this point with him—we never heard her claim questioned before, and always took this channel, cañal, or rio, for a *bonâ fide* effect of natural causes.

In support of this view of the prostration of the Spanish fleet, we may mention a singular application which was made to our Admiral. It was communicated to him from the Prince of Peace, that the extreme distress the government of Spain was then in for specie, and the danger of longer delaying their public payments, were so alarming, that he was prompted to ask for an English frigate to bring remittances from the Spanish colonies to Gibraltar, to be afterwards conveyed into Spain. O, the vicissitudes and anomalies of war! While we were thus requested to convoy treasure to strengthen one potent enemy, our manufactures were supplying the French armies with clothing, and steel to make their weapons of war.

[To be continued in our next.]

OUR NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

PETER PIVOT'S LETTERS FROM NEW BRUNSWICK TO HIS FRIENDS
AT THE DÉPÔT.

No. XI.

To compensate in some degree for the indifferent shooting, there is excellent fly-fishing, both trout and salmon, at the proper season, in most parts of the province. There is a famous salmon pool up the Nashwaak, within three miles of its junction with the St. John opposite to Fredericton, where I have known as many as seven salmon killed by a single rod in the course of a morning. The fish begin to run up the rivers in May, and, from that period to the end of autumn, every wile and weapon that the art of man has yet invented is employed for their destruction. At the spot which I have mentioned there is a large and thriving mill-establishment, and the dam which ensures the requisite supply of water is built in such a way that no fish has any chance of surmounting the impediment. Salmon are often seen in the act of making the attempt; but, although they always leap high enough to clear the perpendicular height, they are almost invariably borne back again by the rush of water on the long and sloping wooden platform that surmounts the parapet wall, and without closing the navigation, forms a rapid, over which the Indian will sometimes hesitate to trust his light canoe. During the whole season this favourite stand is seldom vacant; not a day passes that from dawn till dark officers and civilians, from the neighbouring town, may not be seen flogging the water with a pertinacity that would frighten and disgust any but a New Brunswick salmon, and night has no sooner closed, than the anglers are relieved in the business of destruction by the workmen from the mill, whose nets generally give an account of such fish as may have escaped the persecution of the day. I have often seen them, with a malicious grin, presenting to some novice certain flies of which he had been robbed by the inmates of the pool, assuring him at the same time that he had lost a splendid fish! If the Provincial Statute Book was held in decent reverence and respect, this "sweeping" mode of proceeding against the finny race would be attended with less mischief: the law prescribes that a third part of the breadth of every stream or river shall at all times be left open for the free ingress and egress of the fish, but the scrupulous "Blue Nose" is amazingly ingenious in devising the means of *conscientiously* evading any Act that militates against his personal interest or convenience; and in the present case a small island in the middle of the river immediately below the dam is credited with the space required by law, while the stream on each side of it is carefully netted; and if report speaks true, worse expedients than this have been resorted to for similar purposes.

The Indians, too, are sad poachers, and such salmon as are lucky enough to escape both rods and nets, are sure to fall a prey to their art and perserverance. It is a pretty sight to watch a party of natives employed on a fine still night in spearing salmon: a bright light burns in every canoe, enabling the quick eye of the Indian, as he slowly and noiselessly glides along, to detect every fin, whether in motion or at rest, as he passes over it, and his unerring spear seldom fails to strike and to secure the prize. The spear is very ingeniously constructed, and well-

adapted to its purpose; the prong is enclosed between two pliant and barbed pieces of wood which, grasping the fish when struck, prevent him from escaping, and relieve the iron from the weight of the fish, whose struggles might otherwise enable it to disengage itself: the handle of the spear forms the pole by which the canoe is propelled, and its further end is made to serve the purpose of a paddle also; but it requires great practice to manage these frail barks in an upright posture through the different rapids, and among the rocks where the fish are usually found, and it may, indeed, be said, that none but an Indian, accustomed to the sport from childhood, can navigate a canoe in these waters and at the same time wield the fish-spear with success.

Early in the summer I made an excursion up the Grand Lake, with the double view of seeing a district rich in minerals, and of fishing upon the numerous streams which empty themselves into the Lake. The first part of the journey was speedily accomplished in a steamer, which carried us to the mouth of the Jemseg, as the entrance to the lake is termed, forty miles below Fredericton, and where we found a snug little half-decked cutter ready for our reception; the wind favoured us, and we speedily ran through the deep but narrow passage which connects the river with the lake, and is only about six miles in length. Its banks rise in a gentle slope upon the right hand, while on the left the country is flat and obviously subjected to periodical inundations, and on both sides there are some excellent farms. On leaving the Jemseg, a very fine sheet of water lay before us, upwards of thirty miles in length, and in many places full ten miles in breadth; the numerous double-masted wood-boats sailing up and down under a heavy press of canvass, giving a busy and animated appearance to the inland sea. The wind freshened as we proceeded on our voyage, and, being unprovided with a pilot, we for some time prudently kept in the wake of one of the wood-boats, but finding that it carried us considerably away from the point for which we wished to steer, we at length took courage, and allowed our bark to shoot ahead, trusting as many better seamen have done before, to Fortune; nor did the fickle dame forsake us, until losing confidence in her constancy, we, in an evil hour, took a pilot on board, who immediately ran the vessel on a sand-bank, and caused us a world of trouble and vexation. The banks of the lake are tolerably well settled on both sides, and the people generally appeared to be in comfortable circumstances. Great quantities of gaspereaux—a sort of large herring, and other fish, are caught here at different seasons of the year, which, when salted, come in well as a winter supply. One farmer, in particular, was peculiarly favoured with the means of securing, with scarcely any trouble, a very large share of this bountiful tribute of the ocean—Nature having formed, just below his house, the most admirable fish-trap that can be well conceived; it consists of a deep but very narrow cut in the bank, leading into a small pool or reservoir, from which there is no other outlet, and it is known proverbially as the gaspereaux-hole. When the fish are running as they do in shoals, the trap lies in the very route which they usually take in their cruise up the lake, and as it is their habit to run up every creek and inlet, which has any tolerable depth of water, it is seldom, indeed, that they pass so tempting a channel as that which leads them to their fate; thousands, indeed, have rushed gaily into that deceitful bourn from which no gaspereaux returns! for as the last straggler has swept past

the portals of the entrance a net is dropped across its mouth, and the imprisoned shoal is speedily dragged from its native element, and consigned to the pickling-tubs which stand ready to receive them.

It was night before we reached the head of the lake, where we dropped our anchor, and with the aid of that most portable and excellent travelling *batterie de cuisine*, a conjurer, we were speedily seated at our evening repast, with appetites whetted by long abstinence and the fresh breeze off the water: we did ample justice to the gastronomic skill which had so well and expeditiously administered to our corporeal wants. No traveller by land or water, no sportsman, or half-pay officer, should be without one of these conjurers; they are so cheap and economical, so expeditious and efficient in their services, and withal so portable, that one calculated for three persons may be carried in the crown of a respectable-sized beaver; containing, moreover, inside of it a kettle, ready to supply either tea or toddy at the discretion of the guests: and this, I will say, that I have often seen as good a mess, whether beef-steak, or mutton-chop, salmi, or stew, turned out of this simple apparatus, as either traveller or sportsman should desire.

At day-light in the morning we again got under weigh, and stood for Coal Creek, for the purpose of visiting a mine which had lately been opened by a settler upon his grant. The whole of this district abounds in coal of a superior quality, which at some future day must add greatly to the wealth and resources of the province, but as yet no attempt has been made to work it scientifically, owing, perhaps, to the quantity which is annually imported to St. John's as ballast, and to the capabilities of the Nova Scotia mines of supplying it to any extent, at a very moderate price; the immense capital embarked in these mines, without having as yet produced any adequate return to the shareholders, may also have had its effect in deterring others from entering on a similar speculation, while the abundance of wood, and the preference generally given to it as fuel, have at the same time lessened the demand for coal. The farmers, generally, are too poor to work the coal upon their grants, and the Mining Association, which was formed with a sufficient capital to defray the first outlay of purchasing machinery and sinking shafts, has not yet, I believe, been able to agree with the Government as to the terms upon which they are to be at liberty to work the mineral. We reached the object of our search after a zigzag sail of an hour and a half, and in a chill wet morning landed at the rude pier which the industrious and enterprising settler had made, to enable vessels to take in their cargoes of the mineral produce of his farm.

The ascent of a gentle slope brought us to the spot where we found the adventurer, and four or five assistants, dragging coals with the rudest machinery from a hole of probably fifteen or twenty feet deep, and the first glance showed us that the means employed were altogether inadequate to the end proposed. The poor man was, however, sanguine of success, but I have since heard, that like his predecessors, he has been obliged to relinquish the attempt, after involving himself in difficulty and distress. A large capital, and the employment of scientific men, can alone render this a safe or profitable speculation; and it must be owned that the enormous and hitherto profitless expenditure which has been made at the Sydney and Picton mines, is enough to deter even speculators from entering on another coal adventure.

Having satisfied our curiosity, and received ocular testimony of the mineral riches of the soil, we dropped down the river, and entering the lake, made sail for Newcastle river, which we entered about noon, and anchored in a retired and thickly wooded cove, abreast of the rude log-hut of a recent settler. We were received on landing by a robust and rather fierce-looking Irishman, the sole inhabitant of this lonely spot, whose title to the land was, I believe, simply that of occupation: in the phraseology of the country he was a squatter, and had cleared around his den barely space enough to give himself potatoes; he appeared to have no pursuit or any ostensible mode of gaining a livelihood, and in other countries, and under other circumstances, the man's appearance, not less than his secluded and apparently companionless retreat, might have given rise to suspicions not over creditable to our new acquaintance. But whatever may have been his motive for selecting an abode at a distance from his fellows, and removed from any prospect of employment, it was at least certain that he ran little risk of starving while his garden yielded roots and vegetables, and his proximity to the water insured to him at all seasons a bountiful supply of fish; his punt and net lay before his door, and our own short experience fully corroborated his statement, that it must be a man's own fault should he ever want a meal in such a situation.

On the other side of the creek or river stands another solitary hut, the domicile of a half-pay officer, who had entered into a contract with the Government for working the coal upon his land. He was understood to possess not only some practical knowledge of the business he had embarked in, but also the means of carrying his plans into effect, and having satisfied himself of the feasibility of the undertaking by some more scientific and certain test than the abundant evidence of coal, which the whole of this part of the country displays upon its surface, he had intended to get out from England some skilful miners, with the requisite machinery, for carrying his plans into operation, but he had met with difficulties and experienced vexations and annoyances in a quarter to which he had looked for encouragement and support. By his neighbours his settlement and intended project were viewed with jealousy and dislike, and they daily subjected him to a thousand petty annoyances and interruptions, in the hope of disgusting him with his location, and of driving him from the country; his boundaries were disputed, and he was finally involved in litigation and disputes, which embittered his existence and paralyzed his industry and exertions. This jealousy and unfriendly treatment of strangers, so often shown in the remote districts of the province, is one of the worst features in the "Blue Nose" character, and it is not less illiberal than impolitic, for until this sectarian spirit can be broken and extinguished, it must deter individuals from sitting down in a community so unfavourably disposed towards them, and at the same time so blind to their own true interest as to treat every improvement as an innovation, and thus prevent the prosecution of measures from which they themselves must eventually benefit; and this, I fear, can only be fully accomplished by such an influx of intelligence and enterprise from the old country, as will neutralize the old leaven of the new, by the best of all means, the force of example and the influence of success.

I would not willingly do the good people of New Brunswick an injustice, but it cannot be concealed that too many of the old settlers view

the waste lands as the natural inheritance of their children, and are too frequently disposed to consider those who come among them as interlopers sent to rob them of their birthright; while there is unquestionably a want of congeniality of feeling and of manners, which is nourished and extended by faults on both sides, each party clinging too tenaciously to its own ideas and opinions, and showing too little respect for those of others. These prejudices must, however, give way to time, and as the country becomes more densely peopled all distinctions will be lost in the general march of improvement, and old and new country men will become in taste and manner what they already are by birth and an equality of rights and privileges, not less than by a community of interests—one happy and united people.

Having got our fishing gear in order, we employed our friend the Irish squatter to convey us in his punt to a mill seat, about four miles above our anchorage, where we were led to anticipate some good fishing. Our course lay up the creek, and our brawny boatman propelled us forward at a good rate, through the intricacies and impediments by which our progress was beset. The water was extremely low in some places, scarcely enabling the punt to float, extensive sand-flats were left completely bare, while in other places we were pushed with great labour through bullrushes, and other aquatic plants, bearing an abundant crop of water lilies, and forming the favourite hiding-places of various kinds of water fowl, which we saw in numbers as we passed along. We were obliged to land a mile and a half below the mills, and had a hot walk through the woods, beset and half eat up by myriads of musquitos and black flies, which, as a facetious friend observed to a patient and unsuccessful angler, are always sure to bite in this country, whether the salmon do or not.

We were much disappointed at the appearance of the pool, which it had cost us so much pain and trouble to reach; the lowness of the water seemed to forbid the hope of finding any large fish, while the quantity of saw-dust which floated on its surface must, we imagined, if it did not destroy the finny tribe beneath, at least prevent them from discovering the tempting counterfeits of "martin belly," with which we came provided. Resolved to try, however, I selected two large red hackles, and dropped them cautiously and half despondingly into the water, when an absolute scramble took place among the little cannibals beneath for their possession. The pool seemed absolutely alive, and in little more than an hour I landed between four and five dozen of as fine trout as a fisherman would desire to see; many of them weighed between three and four pounds, and none were under a pound weight. Early in the spring there is no more killing fly than the red hackle, the fish taking it for the blossom of the maple, which grows on the banks of the streams, and of which they are very fond; but to confess the truth, the New Brunswick trout are not dainty in their choice of flies, and science is quite thrown away on them.

It was night ere we reached the yacht on our return, when, thanks to the conjurer, we were not kept long waiting for the meal of which we stood in need; one of our companions had shot some wood pigeons, which, let it be remarked, make no despicable soup: the trout were excellent, and, with the addition of a cold pie and omelette, we contrived to make ourselves pretty comfortable for the evening.

On the following day we paid another visit to the dam, and having actually satiated ourselves with fishing, we spread our canvass to the breeze and glided swiftly down the lake on our homeward voyage.

I have little to add to the details of this excursion, which afforded us much amusement. We reached the St. John early on the following morning, and, jumping on board a steamer proceeding up the river, we arrived at Fredericton in time for dinner.

No. XII.

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.

A long tour of duty in a North American garrison would be insupportable, were it not for the ease with which the scene may be varied by an occasional visit to the States. The first winter, full six months in duration, has, I own, fairly sickened me with New Brunswick; and gladly, therefore, do I now inform you, that I have obtained my furlough, and am actually on my way to that interesting republic which has sprung up with such wonderful rapidity, from infancy to full and vigorous maturity, and is now hastening with giant strides either to a dissolution of the union, or to the highest rank among the nations of the earth.

My route has led me through a section of New Brunswick which I have not yet touched upon, and I will, therefore, conclude these slight and hasty sketches with a short notice of the country that lies between St. John's and the frontier town of St. Andrew's.

The only approach to this town, the second in point of size and importance in the province, leads from the city of St. John's. From Fredericton, *direct*, there is indeed a foot-path, but it is of the very worst description, although it runs through a line of country apparently well adapted to settlement and cultivation. The distance between the latter points does not exceed 60 miles, whereas by the route which we are about to take it amounts to 150.

Having reached St. John's by steam, we crossed the harbour to Carlton, and at seven o'clock on a fine September morning we took our places in the mail-waggon for St. Andrew's. This expeditious conveyance is allowed two days to perform the journey of sixty-seven miles; but as there are steamers, which ply twice a week between the sea ports, whose average run is seven hours, it may be supposed that no one who values time travels by the mail, unless he may wish, as we did, to see the bleak inhospitable country that lies between them. I have already somewhere said that the seaboard of New Brunswick is in general sterile and forbidding, and there is certainly nothing to be seen between its two chief sea ports on the bay shore, which should induce me to modify the assertion; yet are there not only spots of great fertility to be found upon that line, but there are also many glimpses of scenery to be met with, of such peculiar wildness, as cannot fail to repay any lover of Nature for the fatigue and inconvenience of the journey. The road for the first few miles is tolerable, but by far the greater portion of it is as wretched a path as is to be found, even in North America, under the title of a high road, and long before we had completed half the distance we were heartily glad to call a halt for the refreshment of our cattle and ourselves. The house chosen for this purpose by our driver was the neat and tidy cottage of a Scotch settler, whose bustling and obliging helpmate gave us,

in less than half an hour, an excellent dinner, served up with scrupulous neatness, and for which she charged us 1s. 6d. each. These good people are from Galloway, and although it is only five years since they came to the country with very trifling means, they are now living comfortably on a farm of their own, of 150 acres, a considerable part of which is cleared, while the house and offices attached to it are much superior to those of the common class of settlers. It ought, however, to be stated that this man worked hard for two years at his original trade—a plasterer, which enabled him to lay by a part, enough to purchase and stock his farm, and he is now independent.

Another stage of nine miles brought us to the half-way house, where we were to have passed the night, but as the accommodation was of a most uninviting kind, we found means to persuade our new driver to break through regulations, and to proceed at once upon the journey. Night soon afterwards threw her dark mantle over us, and we more than once wished ourselves back again at the hovel we had quitted, as we floundered through the wilderness at the imminent risk of a break down, or overturn into some ravine or water-course: the horses, however, knew the road, and the waggon bravely resisted the rude shocks which it sustained. We still jogged onwards, snatching, like old campaigners, an unrefreshing doze as often as the motion of the vehicle would sanction it, dreaming of precipices, cataracts, and windfalls, until roused again by some dislocating crash against a stump, a stone, or fallen tree.

The moon at length arose serene and bright, and as we emerged from the forest shed her silvery rays with phantasmagoria effect upon the wild landscape which lay before us. On our left the bold outline of the coast of Passamaquoddy, deeply indented with coves and inlets, was distinctly visible; beyond it lay the bay itself studded with fairy islands, and the white sails of the coasting craft gliding smoothly before the breeze: in our front lay the pretty village of Maquaquadarick, while to the right the dark shadow of the forest filled up the back-ground. We procured a cup of tea at an uncomfortable tavern kept by an American in the village, and our onward road proved so good that I contrived to steal a march on time, and awoke only when the waggon was pulled up at the door of a friend's house in St. Andrew's.

This little town is situated at the bottom of a sloping ridge of hills, and at the mouth of the St. Croix, which separates New Brunswick from the United States. The harbour is spacious and well-protected; and here, as in other parts of the Bay of Fundy, the rise in the tide is very great,—not less than twenty-five feet perpendicular. The timber trade is prosecuted to a considerable extent by the merchants of the place, many of whom are wealthy, and carry on besides a lucrative traffic with the West India islands; but their industry and exertions are much cramped from the want of inland communication, and the port can never attain much prosperity until it is connected by good roads with the settlements on the St. John River. This important object, it is now hoped, will be accomplished, for the enterprising merchants of the town, looking far beyond mere intercourse with the interior of the country, aspire to connect their sea-port with Quebec by a railroad, which, if completed, could not fail to change entirely the prospects and destinies of St. Andrew's. The distance does not exceed two hundred and sixty miles, and the line has already been surveyed and favourably reported on by Captain Yule of the Royal Engineers; but I greatly

fear that the country is not yet sufficiently advanced to command, or sanction the investment of, so large a sum as this gigantic undertaking would require.

The town is distinguished for cleanliness, and the regularity, not to say magnificence, of its plan: the main streets run at equi-distances, parallel to each other and the shore. They are very wide, and there are as many good buildings, both public and private, as are generally to be seen in small towns on this side of the Atlantic. The surrounding country is not deficient in beauty. From a hill behind the town the view is very striking; before you lies the Bay of Passamaquoddy, separated from that of Fundy by innumerable islands, varying in size and shape from the naked rock and wooded islet, to Captain Owen's noble principality of Campo Bello. To these islands St. Andrews is probably indebted for the absence of the fogs which pervade the outer bay and render St. John's so disagreeable a residence; but the passage between them is at all times attended with some danger, from the violence with which the tides rush through the narrow channels which divide them.

There is little good land near the town, and it is not the fashion in New Brunswick to employ artificial means for its improvement, even in the immediate vicinity of a market for its produce. Here, as in other parts of the province, lumbering appears to be the chief employment of all classes; and smuggling, it is said, contributes not a little to the support of its inhabitants, who may, perhaps, consider themselves entitled to seek in this way some indemnity from the provincial revenue for its scanty contributions towards the construction of inland communications. Be this as it may, illicit trade has certainly succeeded in this quarter to an extent that is neither beneficial to the morals of the people, nor advantageous to the community at large. Collisions of a violent nature have sometimes occurred in consequence, and I am informed that little fleets of smuggling craft have sometimes been seen assembled on the imaginary water-line that forms the boundary between the Island of Campo Bello and Eastport, carrying on their business within sight of the custom-house on either side.

The population of St. Andrew's does not exceed four thousand, and there is a want of life and animation about the place, which is more sensibly felt from its vicinity to the States, where all is activity, enterprise, and energy. There is a subaltern's detachment stationed here; but both the barracks and the mouldering remains of an old redoubt, with its dismounted cannon lying neglected on the ground, are discreditable to our military establishments, and I cannot but consider it an unwise and parsimonious policy which leaves a frontier station in so ruinous a condition as this is now reduced to. It should either be placed upon a footing to command respect or abandoned altogether. It is not judicious to maintain even so small a force as this in a position which has been allowed to fall into decay. The ground is naturally strong, and a respectable post might be erected at no very ruinous expense; and if only as a *place d'armes* for the militia, this should undoubtedly be done.

The Schoodiac—properly so called—which flows into the sea at this place, is a fine stream, and well settled on both its banks. The town of St. Stephen's, on the British side, is sixteen miles above St. Andrew's, and opposite to it is the American town of Calais. Upon this unpre-

tending little stream the American negotiators, unfortunately for British interest, succeeded in imposing the more sonorous appellation of St. Croix—the St. Croix designated in the treaty of 1723—as the future boundary between the two countries; although few people now-a-days doubt that the framers of that treaty had a much nobler river in view, and that the true St. Croix is no other than the Penobscot, which would indeed have formed a well-defined line of demarcation between New Brunswick and the State of Maine. It is now too late to complain of this unwise concession, but it ought to render us doubly guarded in our future negotiations upon this important question. The Americans will certainly overreach us if they can, and fully alive as they are to the real value of the territory, they seem determined to listen to no compromise upon the subject, “calculating” largely, no doubt, on the apathy if not ignorance which prevails on the other side of the Atlantic upon a claim which involves the connexion, and, in time of war, the actual safety of our North American provinces.

I do not mean to tire you with any lengthened dissertation on this long-pending question; but as the time is now probably at hand when some decisive measure will be forced upon the Government, it may not be amiss to inform you, in as few words as possible, how the matter stands at present. Shortly after the rejection by America of the King of Holland's arbitration, which Great Britain had, I believe, declared her willingness to abide by, the authorities of the State of Maine either authorized, or winked at, an attempt on the part of her citizens to establish a right of occupation to the territory. The time was deemed propitious. An interregnum had taken place in the Provincial Government, the administration of which had usually been confided to a General Officer, in whose absence it was thought that the scheme might have a better chance of success. It so happened, however, that Sir Archibald Campbell arrived in New Brunswick at the very time when this Yankee plot was going on, and, with the promptitude and vigour belonging to his character, he proceeded instantly to Madawaska, and took into custody all the American agents, who were there busily employed in electing township officers, representatives to serve in the Legislature of Maine, and in other acts of aggression amounting to an absolute assumption of the sovereignty of a country, which, although claimed by America, had ever been under British jurisdiction. These men were carried to Fredericton, tried by the Supreme Court, sentenced to a heavy fine, and, in default of payment, imprisoned in the county jail at that place. Great was the outcry and uproar in Maine, when the incarceration of their audacious agents became known. The State Government was declared to be insulted by this outrage, as they called it, on their citizens; the Militia was ordered out, and the poor New-Brunswickers were threatened with fire and sword for daring to assert their rights, and protect their country from aggression. The General Government appears, however, to have taken a very different view of the subject. It could not but feel, that the State Government was in the wrong, and that its agents had been guilty of a violation of the law of nations, in attempting to seduce from their allegiance a primitive and ignorant people, who not only hold their lands from Great Britain, but have been, for two generations back, subjects of the British Crown. It is presumed that some such acknowledgment as this must have been made by the President of the United States, as the American prisoners

were soon liberated from confinement; the provincial authorities contenting themselves with the well-timed and energetic vindication of its legitimate authority, and to which we are probably indebted for the prevention of more serious differences between the two nations.

Since that period nothing has occurred to disturb our amicable relations with our neighbours; peace has been maintained upon the border, and the turbulent settlers on both sides have been effectually restrained from strife and encroachment, by the knowledge that the local Government is neither wanting in energy or power to repress disorder, and preserve the country from unauthorized settlement or depredations, until it may be decided to whom it shall definitively belong. In the mean time, quires of paper have been consumed in fruitless endeavours to procure the adjustment of the claim. Nothing short of the line of the St. John, from its source to its mouth—a modest stride this, from the Ponobscot to the St. John—with the free navigation of that river, will satisfy America. This is her ultimatum! She obviously attaches the highest value to this district; and, probably, for the very reason which makes it all-important to Great Britain—as an indispensable connexion between the Canadas and the Lower Provinces, an abandonment of which would be scarcely less inconvenient in peace than dangerous in war.

The exploration of a line for the projected rail-road, although it has enhanced the value of the property, whoever may succeed to it, has again awakened the jealousy of the State Government, which, at its last session, passed resolutions for the immediate running of their frontier line agreeably to the treaty of 1783; that is, agreeably to their reading of it. These resolutions have been sanctioned and confirmed by Congress, and the establishment of an American military post in the “British” settlement of Madawaska is also seriously spoken of among our neighbours. What steps our Government may see fit to take in these circumstances, I cannot, of course, determine; but it requires no great stretch of foresight to predict, that unless some arrangement can be effected, the sword will one of these days supersede the pen, and become a more effectual arbitrator than the King of Holland. It is not for me to decide what should be done; but this I will say, if we give up the country, worse still, or listen to the insidious compromise offered by America, of the river St. John for our future boundary, far from establishing permanent peace upon our frontier, and staying that spirit of encroachment which exists beyond it, we shall only give rise to new claims and new disputes, and increase the chances of collision when we no longer occupy so favourable a position for resisting that progressive movement, which, in the language of its leaders, can only be arrested by those limits which nature has assigned to this great continent. It is useless, perhaps, to revert to the past; but had we, in 1814, when our hands at length were free to strike with vigour, followed out that unholy war so ungenerously forced upon us by America, at a time when our whole strength and resources were engaged in the great struggle for European liberty—Had we then, I say, struck home, we should not now be required to speculate on the probabilities of a renewal of hostilities on this side of the Atlantic! At the close of that war, indeed, we held possession of the country as far as the Ponobscot, and the States would gladly have acceded to a boundary line so far within that river as the one which we now claim; but the favourable moment was allowed

to pass unheeded, while every subsequent proposal for an arrangement of the question seems only to have proved the hopelessness of the attempt, and the utter impracticability of negotiating to any purpose, with the jarring and complicated machinery of a federal republic; and we are now manifestly reduced to the alternative, either of abandoning our claim *in toto*, or of sustaining it with something stronger than old documents and maps, however incontestably they may support its justice. One more effort should be made upon the fair principle of an equal division, with a stipulation that the half to be surrendered may be paid for in money, at the market price of land. This outlay might be met by making over the property upon liberal terms to a land company; and should the proposal be again rejected,—should Maine and Massachusetts still recklessly insist upon the cession of the whole territory, I really see nothing for it,—much as I should deprecate the necessity,—but to tell these doughty States, in the language of the Spartan of old, “to come and take it.” Seriously! the adjustment of this protracted question can no longer, with safety, be delayed; it has in more than one instance brought us to the very verge of war; and there is no telling how soon the vapourings and threatenings of the “sovereign people” may “eventuate” (to use a word of their own coinage) in aggressions, which can only be repelled by force of arms.*

I must now bid adieu both to you and to New Brunswick for a season. I have, I hope, fulfilled my promise, by giving you a tolerable “notion” of the country you are likely soon to visit, and should I meet with anything worth relating in my intended ramble through the States, you may probably hear from me again. In the mean time believe me your affectionate brother soldier,

PETER PIVOT.

* Since the above was written, these border troubles have been renewed to an extent that must have convinced Lord Palmerston, that whatever object America (by her inadmissible pretensions) may have in keeping the question open as a “bone of contention,” to be taken up at a fitting opportunity, it is clearly the policy of England to adopt immediate and decisive measures for its settlement. An agent from Maine, of the name of Greely, was twice during the last summer arrested by the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick within the disputed territory, where he was employed under instructions from the state authorities, in taking a census of the population, and in tampering with the ignorant Acadians of Madawaska. In the execution of his duty, Sir John Harvey appears to have evinced both moderation and forbearance; and the early release of Mr. Greely, at the request of the federal Government, ought to have satisfied our neighbours that the provincial Government was disposed to maintain its jurisdiction over a district, which, from its first settlement, has been subject to its laws, without unnecessary harshness or severity. This forbearance had, however, little effect upon the inflammable populace of Maine, who loudly proclaimed their intention of marching to Fredericton, to resent the insult offered to the republic in the person of one of its citizens. The State Government, as in duty bound, followed the example of the mob, and a general order was published requiring the militia to hold themselves in readiness for service. It was at the same time deemed expedient to make some corresponding demonstrations on one side of the line:—detachments were stationed at Woodstock and the Grand Falls, and things looked rather warlike for a time. But although the storm has again passed over without bursting, the thunder-cloud may still be seen lowering to the westward, and the slightest breeze may bring it back upon us with redoubled fury, at a moment, perhaps, when we are least prepared to meet it. The States have a numerous and efficient militia at all times disposable for service. It has been our policy to permit these provinces to abrogate the laws under which a respectable constitutional force might have been maintained, and to trust in Providence and patriots for their defence.

JOURNAL OF THE MOVEMENTS OF THE 43RD REGT. IN NORTH AMERICA.

AN intelligent and interesting Journal of the march of the 43rd Regt. from Fredericton to Quebec, and of the subsequent movements of that corps, having been placed at our disposal, we offer the latter portion to our readers, as the former goes over the ground already described in the Narrative of an Officer of the 85th Regt. which appeared in this Journal for April last. Having narrated the events of the Overland March to Quebec, which occupied a period of eighteen days from the 10th to the 28th of December, with great spirit, the writer proceeds as follows:—

We had fondly flattered ourselves that our labours for the winter would terminate at Quebec: reports, however, of gatherings of the rebels on the rivers Richelieu and Yamaska, backed by an application for troops from the Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, quickly undeceived us. The 43rd and 85th Regiments received orders to hold themselves in readiness to move forward to the disaffected quarter, and an officer was despatched to hasten the 34th from Halifax. During the week we passed at Quebec I contrived to visit the Citadel, the Monument to Wolfe and Montcalm, and the plains of Abraham. You will admire the scroll on the monument of the antagonist heroes—

"Mortem Virtus communem.
Victoria Famam,
Monumentum Posteritas, dedit."

When the gallant Wolfe fell, the 28th Regiment was on his right, the 43rd on his immediate left. It was singular enough that the second division of the regiment, in crossing the river yesterday, were carried down by the floating ice to "Wolfe's Cove," the very spot where the 43rd, then styled "Kennedy's Regiment," landed in 1759. On the spot hallowed by the death of the General stands a plain, solid column, with the simple inscription—"Here died Wolfe, victorious." The joint monument of Wolfe and Montcalm is within the town.

I deferred my visit to the famous "Falls of Montmorency" till a more genial opportunity—iced cascades not suiting my taste. The old dilapidated citadel looked proud of the wholesome, and by no means premature, repairs it was undergoing. I know nothing like a little national danger as a cure for national parsimony in the military line. Behold an instance. The barracks at Chambly were sold not long since by Government for 150*l*. This year the purchaser, having pulled down and sold the materials of one half of them, has resold to Government the remaining buildings, which the officers of the 43rd now occupy, for more than double that sum. Nuts for H-me, eh?

During our stay at Quebec we were daily entertained by the chief gentry of the city. Lord G—— was most prominent in his kindness towards us: the parties, however, were entirely confined to the rougher sex, the ladies motiving the absence of their lords at the wars as the cause of their seclusion. Mrs. ——, the charming daughter of Sir J. C——, was the only lady I became acquainted with. We were not favoured by fine weather at Quebec. Indeed, we had need to be thankful for the unusual share of that blessing during our march. We were assailed by only one snow storm, and experienced none of those disas-

trous northern blasts, during which no human being can presume to quit his shelter. It is curious how little a cold of many degrees below zero affects one, if there be no wind. Yet in this country the houses are so leavened with the heat of stoves and their ramifying pipes, that the step which takes you from the inside to the outside of your hall-door gives you a plunge of 70 or 80 degrees of Fahrenheit. Whilst I write this, my room is at the cozy temperature of 62°, yet in an hour I shall pull on my buskins and fur-cap, and, with the thermometer below zero, shall toddle contentedly through the snow to visit the guards by night.

The first division of the 43rd reached Québec, as I have said, on the 28th of December, 1837, and, with orders to move to Chambly, on the river Richelieu, quitted that city on the 5th of January, 1838. Unaccompanied, as we were, by any comforts—without baggage, mess, women, and children, or any other military impediment—we felt willing and ready for further work, and, at least, as well qualified for service as any regiment in the field; and as the Americans, favouring the rebel Mackenzie, had shown their teeth pretty unequivocally at Navy Island, on the Niagara frontier, we had every chance of being pushed on to the scene of action. But I must not dwell long upon the march from Quebec to Chambly—indeed, it was not marked by anything very notable, though the country and people through which we passed are well worth description.

The head-quarters, with E——'s and my company, escorting a large convoy of arms and ammunition for the Volunteers of the Montreal district, trotted out of Quebec, on the 5th of January, in 114 carriages, a cavalcade covering, at least, half a mile of road.

Following the road to Montreal, on the northern shore of the St. Lawrence, we halted on the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th, at Cap Santé, St. Anne, Trois Rivières, Maskinongé, and Sorel, crossing the great river to the latter town by the head of the islands of the lake of St. Peter. On the 10th of January, having procured fresh carriages, we drove forty-five miles to our destination, Chambly—the whole day's journey being on the crystal surface of the river Richelieu. So perfect was the ice, that there was no draught for the horses; and, indeed, the great difficulty was to prevent the realization of the old nursery metaphor—"the cart before the horse," so constant was the "slewing." My sleigh more than once described a perfect circle, the pony's fore-feet forming the pivot on which the wheel was made. This contingency involves a certain upset if the runner of the carriage encounters sideways any obstacle, and, when happening near open water, is, of course, very hazardous. We ran past many very beautiful villages, with their tin-covered spires shining in the sunbeams like silver. Some of these were interesting in our eyes as the scene of the late encounters between the Queen's troops and the rebels. First, the pretty hamlet of St. Ours, through which the discomfited detachment of Colonel Gore retreated after their reverse at St. Denis. The approach to St. Denis was distinguished by a line of tall chimneys, sole remains of the houses destroyed in the retributive visit of Colonel Wetherall. The blackened and roofless house and distillery of the rebel Nelson (what a name for a traitor!), and the ruins of the fortified building so resolutely defended by the insurgents, proved that the Royals had well avenged the wounded

Markham and the murdered Weir. In the midst of the desolation stood a tall white crucifix, stretching its arms as though in vain appeal to human charity.

In each "paroisse" one of these crosses may be seen on the roadside, shaded by a pavilion of wood, with not uncommonly a figure of the natural size remarkably well executed. The effect is, I think, wholesome even to the Protestant. I can fancy even the most hardened foregoing his desperate purpose whilst within sight of the emblem of man's salvation. But, after all, how much depends upon the artist.

Wolfred Nelson, the chief of St. Denis, is now in the Montreal gaol. There are in his character the redeeming traits of bravery and humanity. I called a halt opposite the village, in order that the men might have an opportunity of warming themselves (in this country the traveller must stop occasionally to lay in a store of caloric), intending to pay a flying visit to the scene of action. The rush of the carriages, however, to one spot, split the ice, and I got the cavalcade again into line just in time, I suspect, to prevent immersion.

The merit of the *sainted* villages was the noted St. Charles, where "ce brave Vetherell," as the loyal Canadian Journal termed him, gave General Brown a taste of British discipline and Sheffield steel. Lunching with the detachment of the 66th, stationed there, we had an opportunity of wandering over the field of battle. The choice of his post proved the ignorance of the rebel leader. The house of a Mr. Dubarty, just outside the town, was, with some out-buildings, loopholed for musketry, the avenue of trees was felled, and formed into a miserable breastwork. No part of the house was cannon proof, and even musket balls had pierced its thin walls.

Warned by the fatal consequences of the spirited but premature attack of St. Denis (if such warning were necessary for an officer of such experience), Colonel Wetherall, without exposing a man, made the artillery batter away the courage of his opponents, and the first glitter of the bayonet sent them to the right-about. On hearing of the St. Denis disaster, Sir John Colborne sent an order to Colonel Wetherall to retreat. This dispatch was fortunately intercepted, or most probably all Lower Canada would have risen, and the 43rd would not have jogged quite so tranquilly as they did along the banks of the St. Lawrence.

Chambly is situated on the left bank of the river Richelieu, looking over a splendid basin, now a sheet of "glare ice" (how you would enjoy the skating!). The old French fort, which served them as a defence against the Indians in former days, is now half ruined. The barracks are on a desert plain, half-way between the French and English parishes. I will say nothing of our accommodations, for I have nothing good to say of them. Thanks to stoves and thick raiment, I can always keep myself warm, though I must confess that I have sometimes a secret yearning for my relinquished Turkey carpet.

The 43rd are likely to remain this winter in Chambly.* In case of a war with the United States it will become a post of great importance. When the St. Lawrence becomes more strongly frozen, two hours' drive will take us to Montreal. I went to Montreal the day after our arrival

* The 43rd were soon after sent forward to the town of St. John, on the Richelieu river. Captain M—'s company occupied St. Athanase, a village on the opposite side of the river, having 4 serjeant and fifteen men in advance on the Isle aux Noix.

here, and but for the dangerous illness of our good Colonel (now better), should have been the bearer of the joint request of the officers to the higher powers for our immediate removal to the frontier of Niagara. No regiment can beat us in the lightness of equipment for service. I lodged with Captain Markham at Montreal: he is wonderfully recovered of his wounds.

Returning from Montreal, with two officers of engineers, an incident occurred of rather an exciting nature. I must first mention that in going there the St. Lawrence was not passable on the ice in carriages, and that we walked across with some risk, led by a guide, trying the doubtful spots with a pole. On our return, however, finding that horses had already passed over the ice, we ordered our drivers to attempt the passage. The river bore us very well, and we were going along merrily, my carriage leading, when we suddenly heard a shout from a group on the shore parallel to which we were driving, at the distance of about two hundred yards. "Sauvez vous! sauvez vous! La glace part," rang in our ears, and in an instant our horses were in full gallop. Looking towards the bank, we heard a crashing noise, and saw the ice breaking up in large masses, and rolling perpendicularly against the inequalities of the shore. The ice on which we were was in motion down the stream. My driver galloped straight for a little promontory of land, some distance down the river, where a road ran down to the stream. The ice had parted from the land about two feet, and thick fragments, three or four feet in height, stood on end, barring our retreat. However, my driver put his horse's head gallantly at the fence, but not liking the look of the chasm, I skipped out of the carriage, and taking the whole at a flying leap, dropped safe on *terre ferme*. The equipage knocked the icy barrier all to pieces, and the other voiture following, both reached the shore safe. I need not tell you that we abandoned the notion of traversing the river in carriages, performing the passage on foot.

And now, my dear friends at home, I think I have given you enough of my "hauts faits" of the last month. Our march from Fredericton to Chambly was five hundred and fifty-three miles. Our detachment from St. John's travelled ninety miles more. I assure you I greatly enjoy the recollection of the trip, whatever I may have thought of its performance. It was not accomplished with quite so much ease as certain comfortable functionaries at Fredericton, legislating from behind their desks, foretold it would. "Simplest thing in the world!"—"Mere pic-nic expedition!"—being their favorite phrases; yet the arrangements made beforehand (excepting only those wretched log cabanes) were so excellent, that the asperities inseparable from a winter's march in the coldest climate in the British dominions were rendered trifling in a military point of view, the country through which we passed being peaceable. Resistance would of course have rendered our position very different.

The gentlemen (or some of them at least) who travelled through the line of march, bringing dispatches from Quebec to Halifax, were also prone to undervalue the difficulties of the route. They forgot that the movement of troops differs essentially from a personal trip. No price could tempt me to retrace my steps by the same road, hampered with a hundred soldiers, all fellow-sufferers with myself, and objects of one's constant solicitude and anxiety; but inclination alone would quickly

transport my portmanteau and myself to the Utopian little village of Fredericton.

Whether in camp or quarters, peace or war, luxury or discomfort, at home or abroad, so long as I am in the 43rd I shall have a knot of perfect gentlemen to associate with. With which consolatory remark I conclude this scrawl, hoping that its perusal may give pleasure to my home circle.

The following is an account, by the same party, of an expedition from Fredericton to the Great Falls in September, 1837.

MY DEAR —,— Just a month since I gave you a hurried line, announcing that I was on the eve of starting upon a trip which had at least some distant chance of having a warlike-issue. I am now re-seated in my barrack-room, my campaign accomplished, and must give you the result thereof.

I informed you that on the 15th of September I left Fredericton with six officers, and 110 men in seven boats, towed by horses. We reached our destination in five days, but first I will succinctly explain the *wherefore* of this military move.

The district of Madawaska, settled chiefly by the French, is in dispute between the United States and England, but during discussion, remains by mutual agreement under the jurisdiction of Great Britain. An American agent has been twice caught taking a census of this district, and has been imprisoned as often: also the Maine people were employed in forming a military road through the country in dispute. Our Government, therefore, sent a strong letter of remonstrance to the capital of Maine, as well as to the President of the United States, backing them up by dispatching a force to the military posts, thereby taking the initiative in case of a collision between the parties disputing. I am inclined to think that this little advance has been serviceable to the country at little cost; and *my* only cause of panic being removed, namely, the dread of remaining in such wretched quarters during the winter, I am prepared to speak in satisfactory terms of our short military trip to the Grand Falls.

The senior Captain halted at Woodstock, a large town about fifty miles from Fredericton, while I proceeded with fifty men to the Falls, an hundred and thirty-five miles from the capital. We had about five-hundred stand of arms for the militia, and the settlers on the river bank were in such a state of excitement, and so full of loyalty that things assumed an almost warlike appearance. At the Falls there are only two houses—one a sort of tavern, where the three officers occupied a small room opening from the public kitchen; the other, the cottage of Sir J. Caldwell, who, living like a hermit here, has established, literally hanging over the cataract, a huge saw-mill, with the purpose, I presume, of sawing up the countless acres of forest by which he is surrounded.

My men occupied a wooden barn, and slept in their clothes the whole time we were there. Sir John, who is first cousin to our deceased relative, and Baronet of that name, is a fine old man, very polished, clever, and well read; and most fortunate did I consider myself in finding, in so distant a corner of the British dominions, a connexion intelligent and kind. He had an excellent library. I need not say we parted with regret.

The scenery of Madawaska is splendid in the extreme—hills after hills of eternal forest, with the beautiful river St. John serpentine through them. Just above the Falls the stream loses its rapidity in a wide basin (Sir John's *dépôt* of log timber), and, gently gliding therefrom, throws its whole breadth over a grand crescent of black rocks 75 feet into a deep chaudière, whence, hurrying through a splendid half-mile of overhanging and precipitously rocky banks, serrated with pines and birches, it makes a sweep to the west, forming the lofty peninsula on which the military post is fixed, and again becomes quiescent in "the lower basin," which forms the *dépôt* of planks which, having passed through the saw mills, are launched down a *plank shoot* into the basin, whence, being *rafted*, they take their departure for St. John's. I have a few rough sketches of the place, which give a faint idea of the main features.

Sir John Harvey and his family and suite came up and stayed a week at the cottage; and one beneficial result of his excellency's visit was, his ocular proof of the unfitness of our accommodation for winter quarters. He assured us, therefore, at his departure, that should the district remain quiet, he would shortly remove the detachment. Accordingly, on the 8th instant, the Deputy Quarter-Master-General arrived at the Falls with the welcome orders to evacuate the post on the 10th.

At five A.M. on that day, therefore, I put my men into two large boats, and, by dint of stream and sweeps, reached Fredericton at nine P.M. on the 18th, having suffered a good deal from cold and rain on the voyage. The last day, being anxious to get on a-head to order breakfast at a farm-house for my men, I got into a canoe, and shot the "Meductie Falls," a series of rapids so called. The wind being strong a-head, there was so great a sea on, that the water broke into, and completely filled the canoe. So buoyant are these little crank vessels of birch bark, that it could not sink, and down I went at the rate of twenty miles an hour, up to the gunwale, and over my hips in water,—thermometer at 30°—till having run down the rapids, my French Cannottier and self run the bark ashore, and, having turned her over, again launched her, and continued our course. Monsieur Pierre Labage gave me great credit for my conduct, declaring that had I moved an inch when the waves were breaking into my lap (I was paddling at the bows) the canoe would have capsized, and we should have been *rolled into mummies* in the rapids;—pleasant news for a man who had buoyed himself up with his swimming powers! ..

We have just returned in time, for the cold is beginning to set in, and when once the river freezes all return from the Falls is cut off. A dance was given in honour of the return of the campaigners the night after our arrival, and * * * repaid our toils. This month of hardship has had one excellent effect, namely, that of making Fredericton and one's barrack-room delightful. In another month Nature will be ice-bound here, and everybody is busied in preparing against the enemy. The accounts are very startling, but I look forward with some interest and curiosity to the complete change of life and amusements which the winter brings with it here. There is little sporting, and skating lasts only about a month. I continue to be perfectly satisfied with my quarters. Nothing can exceed the kindness of our Governor

to every one. When at the Falls, finding that we had no wine with us, he sent us a couple of dozen from his own private stock.

Yesterday began a fine, bright, and comparatively warm interval, styled "the Indian summer," which appears designed by Providence to be employed in hiving ourselves for the winter. The grand forests have changed their scarlet and orange for brown and sombre green, the wild pigeons have betaken themselves to the south, and in another month I shall be

* A SHRIVELLED OLD MEDLAR.

Fredericton, 16th October, 1837.

THE DISASTER OF EL HAMET.

No. II.

THERE is something very solemn—I might have said mournfully, as well as deeply interesting—in the repose of a body of troops the night before a battle, on the very ground where it is reasonable to conclude that on the return of dawn they will put life and honour to the hazard. The day that precedes a battle is almost always a harassing one. There have been for the most part marchings and counter-marchings,—continual changes of position, with all that unslumbering vigilance and tension of spirit which men put on when in the immediate presence of an enemy. Meals, if eaten at all, have been eaten by hasty snatches, and the bow has throughout been bent well nigh to breaking. At last the sun goes down, and minds which have been kept upon the stretch for many hours together begin to relax themselves. "There are a few hours more between us and our fate," is a form of thought, if not of speech, which occurs to the bravest. "Let us make the most of them, and be thankful;" and down they sit beside their bivouac fires, full of conversational zeal, their overlaid breasts panting to throw off their burthen by the interchange of lively sallies, or confidential communications with one another. But fatigue, both of mind and body, soon gains the mastery over them. Conversation flags, the song grows less enlivening, and there are fewer volunteers to offer it. Then follows a general spreading out of cloaks, with the last toast, as the grog or the wine is for the last time raised to the lips. "Here's to the result of to-morrow!" passes round the circle, and all is still. Sound, deep, and unbroken is the repose, which with many shall give place to an hour or two of desperate activity, and then the tale of life is told.

I do not know that I ever felt the solemnity of such a scene more intensely than on the occasion to which my narrative refers. It was midnight ere the noise of revelry ceased, and then the silence was that of a charnel-house. Full, and bright, and pale, the moon held her course in heaven, shedding over the branches of the palm-trees beneath which the soldiers lay a soft and silvery lustre, which contrasted finely with the redder and more lurid glare that broke out from their watch-fires as the fuel which had been heaped on became ignited and blazed up. Beyond this little charmed circle again all was desolation the most com-

plate. The desert, broken into little swells and falls, lay like an ocean of grey sand under the cloudless sky. There was no sound of living thing to remind me that I was one of the countless millions that walk the earth. There was no motion, no stir, to relieve the pressure of so vast a loneliness. The senses came back upon the imagination, if I may so express myself, without having gathered ought in all their wanderings on which to exercise themselves. No wonder then if I, on whose eyelids sleep refused obstinately to settle, should have become grave and thoughtful while I sat to contrast the appearance of things, as they were then around me, with what it was more than probable they would have become by the same hour on the morrow.

However agreeable at the outset such musings as these may be, the most enthusiastic soon grows tired of them, for they take a darker and a darker hue the more you indulge them, till by-and-by they fairly unman you. This was my case on the present occasion, so I determined to shake myself free from the bondage, and to find in society a refuge against care, which, without in any degree partaking of the character of alarm, was not a pleasant companion.

Parings, as soon as the hubbub began in the bivouac, had escaped to a hut which he and Vincent had erected for themselves a little way apart from the bivouac. It lay in a hollow, so as to be entirely sheltered from observation till you came upon it, and consisted merely of a few boards—brought, Heaven knows from what quarter—and some broad leaves and spreading branches cast over them. I found my friend the Commissary preparing to lie down, but this I would not allow.

"You have stood me in excellent stead once already, Jack," said I, "and you shan't desert me now. Rouse up, and smoke a cigar. I can't sleep, and you must bear me company."

"With all my heart, Hervay," was the reply. "If you had not come, I should have been in the land of Nod in the space of ten seconds; but, seeing that you are here, why, there are occupations more agreeable than dreaming—so here goes."

He jumped up from his half-recumbent position as he spoke, pulled forth the cigar-case, and struck a light; but we had not taken half-a-dozen puffs ere a corporal entered. "Plase yer honour, there's a jam at the outposts."

"A what?" cried I.

"A jam, yer honour; and Mr. Vincent thinks they be the Mamlowks."

"The devil he does!" exclaimed I, guessing that by the word jam my informant meant a Djerm. "Then it is time for me to know the truth of the matter. Follow me."

Away we ran as fast as our legs would carry us, and the mystery, if such it deserves to be called, was speedily solved. About half a mile beyond El Hamet there stands, or there stood, close to the river, a small mosque, the slender minaret of which shot up gracefully from amid the dark foliage by which it was surrounded. It was an exceedingly interesting object in a scene so desolate; and, with its burnished crescent reflected in the water with a radiancy that well-nigh rivalled that of the moon itself, had attracted my notice and called forth my admiration from my first arrival at the post. I now made towards it, and saw,

beside a wharf, which from a cluster of fishermen's huts projected into the Nile, about one hundred and fifty yards in advance of me, two Djerms, well filled with men, creeping through the brushwood. I examined them carefully, ascertained that each boat contained at least two hundred persons, and that these, instead of being Mamelukes, were stout Albanian infantry. The impulse of the moment was to order my attendant to fire upon them, but I resisted it. If they meant to attack, the shot would warn them that we were prepared; if not, an alarm would be given unnecessarily, when alarm, too abruptly excited, might prove mischievous. I was content, therefore, to steal back to the piquet, and to make such dispositions as the nature of the case seemed to require.

The first thing to be done was to warn Colonel Macleod of his danger, while, at the same time, the advanced post was reinforced by closing up to it the party in support. I despatched Vincent to accomplish the latter of these objects, and the former my orderly received orders to carry out. He made good use of his time, and soon came back again with an answer, "that it was all right!"

Vincent and I stared at one another, but made no remark. "Abide you here, Tom," said I, after a brief pause. "I will go myself to the village, ascertain what force there is there, put the men on their guard, and return to you immediately." I did so, and found, on regaining the piquet station, that the number of Djerms had increased in my absence to sixteen. This was an announcement by far too serious to be neglected, so I drew up a written report and gave it to the corporal, with orders that he should deliver it into Colonel Macleod's hands, and bring me back instructions, for which he was to wait. The man went, was absent about half an hour, and returned empty handed.

"What did he say?" demanded we.

"Nothing, your honour, only 'very well.'"

"But didn't you tell him that we expected instructions?"

"Yes, your honour."

"And what then?"

"Nothing at all, your honour, only 'very well.'"

"This is by far too grave a contingency to be trifled with," exclaimed I. "Our force is, I am afraid, so scattered, that to bring it together again will be impossible; and probably Macleod, knowing this, is unwilling to try the experiment. But it won't do to be cut off in such an exposed position as this. Run you back to the village, Vincent; I will take care of the piquet. Turn the Arabs out of their houses; loop-hole every wall that will give an opening for a musket; I will cover you as well as I can while you are so employed, and then we shall have something like a post to fall back upon. Where there is no head to direct, the hands in camp must work as they best may. We can make a very good fight of it in the village."

Vincent hastened to act up to the instructions which I gave him, and in a few minutes a prodigious stir among the women and children in our rear warned us that the pioneers were at work. They exerted themselves with astonishing alacrity, for in less than an hour El Hamet had assumed an exceedingly defensible character. And high time it was, that either by these, or other and more effective means, the dangers by

which we were at the moment threatened should be guarded against, for we had no friendly visitors now to expect. The hopes with which, during so many weeks, we had been fed, were all about to dissolve, and that, too, under circumstances, on the occurrence of which no human being had ever calculated. The Vizier, Mahomed Ali, had entirely prevented us in all the arrangements which we proposed to make, and, by a little exercise of the tact for which he was famous, had won over to his own ranks the allies on whose co-operation we had counted. Where were our friendly Mamelukes? They came not; and excellent care was taken that they should not come at all.

The history of that remarkable order, the tale of their rise, and the tragedy of their fall, are too well known to render more than an allusion to them necessary, in such a narrative as this. Probably the world has never produced a body of warriors more justly renowned than they for individual courage, patience, hardihood, exceeding personal strength, and a reckless disregard of all the ties which are binding upon men in general. To their chief, and to one another, their fidelity was incorruptible—to the rest of the world they were as tyrants and taskmasters; for they served the Pacha himself only while he loaded them with favours; and of all beneath him they took no heed. The Mamelukes—if in some sort the strength of the Egyptian throne—were likewise one source of its weakness. The best horsemen, the most expert swordsmen of modern times, they showed themselves capable, when Napoleon invaded their country, of the most extraordinary exertions. They were but a handful, yet they feared not to attack 40,000 disciplined French troops, and they compelled them to traverse the whole of the space between Alexandria and Cairo in squares. Nevertheless, the jealousy of other armed bodies hindered the Pacha from organizing any rivals to them; and hence, when they sustained a defeat, he was without any means of defence. Moreover, the pressure of the Mamelukes upon him and upon the Egyptian community was very galling throughout. It may be questioned, therefore, whether, by those in power, the results of the battles of the Pyramids were not hailed as a deliverance. It is certain that no sooner was Egypt freed from foreign invasion, than between the remains of their body and the Vizier those contests began, which ended, as all the world knows, in the extirpation of the whole body.

When the second English expedition to Egypt was undertaken, the struggle between them and Mohamed Ali was at its height. The prospect of receiving support from allies so powerful as they knew the English to be greatly encouraged their chiefs, and they opened those communications with General Mackenzie which led to a momentary expectation on our part of their arrival in the camp. But Mohamed Ali, a man of extraordinary ability, who, from a humble station had raised himself to absolute power in the land of the Pharaohs, was too prudent to turn away from any sacrifice which might enable him to defeat this arrangement. He hastened to open a treaty with the Mamelukes, and not only prevailed upon them to keep aloof from the Caffers, but urged some of the most influential of the chiefs to join their arms with his. All this was, of course, kept secret from us up to the last moment. We wondered, indeed, that pledges so often given should not be redeemed, and began to fear lest the tide of events should have set in with overpowering violence against our friends; but we never suspected

them of treason or double-dealing till we saw them in the field against us.

While Vincent was employed, as I have just described, in putting El Hamet in a posture of defence, I took my station with the advanced videttes, being anxious to observe the first hostile movement that might be made, and alive to the necessity of resisting it. As the moments rolled by, however, without bringing anything of unusual interest under my observation, a sense of fatigue, of which I had heretofore been unconscious, began to obtain the mastery over me; my eyes would close from time to time in spite of strenuous exertions to the contrary; and, if I sat, it was no easy matter to abstain from assuming a still more luxurious attitude. Such a struggle rarely fails to end in the defeat of him who embarks in it, and I confess that I proved no exception to the general rule: I fell fast asleep, and awoke again only when the light of day showed Colonel Macleod standing over me.

"You sent me two reports last night, Captain Hervey," said he. "What do they mean?"

"You have only to look to your front, Sir," answered I, "and your question will be answered."

"Why, I *have* looked to the front," was the reply, "yet can see nothing. What *is* the meaning of your reports?"

I jumped up, rubbed my eyes, stared hard in every direction, and sure enough there was nothing in view to bear me out in the statements which I had sent in. No Djerms were there—nor Albanians—nor any of the formidable objects of which I had made mention; and for a moment I began to think that I really had been dreaming. But this delusion soon passed away. There had come up from the river with the early dawn a fog so dense as to render every object at a stone's throw distant from the spot where we stood invisible. I pointed it out to the Colonel, and begged him to have patience.

"Patience!" cried he in an angry tone; "it is my firm belief that your own absurd phantasies have deceived you. I beg, so long as you remain on outpost duty, that you will take care to make yourself better acquainted with what is near you, and not send in reports of an enemy's advance till you are certain that there really is an enemy within two miles of you."

I was nettled of course, but what could I say?—Nothing; and, happily for me, the elements soon spoke in a language far more eloquent than any which I could have employed. The Colonel was still beside me—indeed his rebuke yet trembled on his lips—when the sun appeared struggling with the mist, and rapidly dispelling it. It rolled away, and discovered to our astonished gaze first half-a-dozen Arabs on foot, who appeared running towards us. By-and-by a group of horsemen emerged from the same screen, conspicuous among whom was a little man, mounted on a white charger, who wore an enormous red turban on his head, richly ornamented pistols, and scimitar by his side, and a javelin in his hand, with which he pointed to the right of our position. There followed him two or three mounted attendants, who carried suspended from their lances as many red horse-tails. Then rose upon the morning air a confused sound of tom-toms and cymbals, and shortly afterwards, when the fog cleared off, the whole of the Vizier's army stood before us. There they were in battle array, to the amount, per-

haps, of 6000 combatants, 2000 of which were cavalry. Disorderly they might be, for the infantry were drawn up in numerous detached groups, each of which, under its own chief, was gathered round its own banner, while the cavalry, in one solid mass, had a second irregular line behind them. But for the splendour of effect—the magnificence of spectacle—the proud bearing of the individual cavaliers—and the air of defiance which seemed to surround them—I have never, in any part of the world, beheld anything at all approaching to it. When looked at with a soldier's eye, I admit that the array then before us was not very formidable; but the lover of the picturesque would have been charmed by it on account of the very irregularities, which, tried upon military principle, served but to demonstrate the comparative feebleness of the display.

We gazed upon the spectacle before us with a degree of interest such as the peculiar situation into which we were thrown was calculated to excite. On the one hand, the gorgeous dresses and glittering equipments of these half-barbarians operated powerfully upon the imagination—on the other, the recollection of our inability to cope even with them chilled us. I speak, at least, for myself—for of Colonel Macleod's feelings on the occasion I know nothing: but of one thing I am quite certain, that nobody could be aware of the distribution of our little corps, and see it on the eve of a struggle, without being nervous as to the issue. That my account of what is to follow may be the better understood, it is necessary that I state both the exact amount of force which occupied the position of El Hamet, and the order in which the commanding officer arranged it.

From the lake of Edko to the Nile, a distance of perhaps two English miles, there is a range of low sand-hills, accessible everywhere to infantry, though, from the steepness of the slope and inequality of the surface, tolerably well covered from the operations of cavalry. This latter description of force could, indeed, operate only at two points—namely, along the road of which I have elsewhere spoken, as penetrating through the village of El Hamet; and by fording the lake a few hundred yards beyond the southern extremity of the ridge, where the water was extremely shallow. Now, as the whole position was covered in the rear by a canal, and the road in question commanded by a couple of 6-pounders, it is very obvious that, if properly manned, it deserved to be accounted a good one. Two thousand British troops planted there, with an adequate artillery, and abundance of ammunition, would have held it for ever against four times their own number of Arabs. But Colonel Macleod's entire corps consisted of only 750 infantry and four 6-pounders, and out of these 750 one-third were foreigners. Now, I have no wish to undervalue the military qualities of De Roll's regiment—they were fine, gallant fellows, and their commandant, Major Vogelsang, as brave as his own sword; but they were not English—they had none of the stubborn power of endurance which seems peculiar to Englishmen—and their very ignorance of the English language told against them. It was, therefore, the height of madness to think, under any circumstances, of retaining, even for one hour, a line so extended, after the enemy's movements should have indicated a design on their part to attack it. Unfortunately, however, Colonel Macleod either did not feel this, or never seriously apprehended an attack till it occurred, for he clung to

the ridge—as if there had been neither safety nor honour elsewhere, and the consequences were fatal.

At the moment when he and I were watching together the advance of the Turkish army, this little corps professed to occupy the line of sand-hills from one extremity to the other. It was thus distributed: one body of about 300 men was in position beside the river; the other, of which Major Vogelsang was at the head, took post, with a couple of guns, beside the latter; and a third, all that remained after these 600 had been told off, held the village, observed the road, and supported the guns which enfiladed it. Thus there was an interval of something more than three-quarters of a mile between the several detachments into which Colonel Macleod had divided his corps. But this was not all. That the communications might be kept up, each division threw out to the right and left its smaller detachments, which planted themselves here and there along the surface of the hill, wherever to their or the commandant's eyes the ascent might appear most practicable. It must be quite obvious to every military man that a position so held was at the mercy everywhere of the assailants. Two hundred resolute men would have been enough to break through wherever they might attack, save at the principal defences; and a breach in the line, at any given point, would render the whole untenable.

Even to my inexperienced eye it was quite evident that there could be but one mode of defence. Not a moment was to be lost in concentrating the several divisions, by an oblique movement to the rear, along the plain. To cover this movement the piquets must, of course, be left, with orders to delay the enemy as long as possible, and then, when resistance no longer availed, to retreat with all speed upon the main body. But Colonel Macleod did not see this: he seemed, indeed, like one overtaken by some unexpected calamity—or, to speak more correctly, he appeared so thoroughly overwhelmed by the consciousness of the difficulties that beset him, that the power of striving to counterwork them was taken away. He gazed long and silently on the Turkish posts, and then mounted his horse.

"See, Sir," cried I, "their cavalry has separated. That body is evidently ordered off to cross the lake, and turn our flank; those which remain will doubtless support the infantry in the attack on the village. What is to be done? Shall I defend El Hamet?"

"Yes," cried he, turning about, "to the last man." He plunged his spurs into his horse's sides as he spoke, and galloped to the rear.

Now then began all those hurried, yet most orderly movements, with the nature and danger of which every soldier is familiar: the sentries were called in; the piquets formed into a little column, and marched back at a quick step into the village, where, from right and left, as well as from my support, stragglers of every kind had assembled. "Now, men," cried I, "your own safety, and the safety of others, is in your own hands. Up to the roofs of the houses—clap your knapsacks before you instead of sand-bags—barricade the doors—break more loopholes in the walls—and take care not to throw away a single fire—let every shot tell." They hastened to obey me with the coolness and courage which belonged to them, and in five minutes we were ready. By this time I had ascended to the roof of a house, and beheld the enemy advancing, till they arrived within excellent range of us. "Give

me your musket," said I to a man near me; "I shall have a shot at Red Turban any how; and, when I fire, blaze you away handsomely." I had gone so far as to cover my man; I was an unequal marksman at a moderate distance; I am confident that the shot would have told—when my attention was drawn away by the voice of a sergeant from below, who informed me that Colonel Macleod desired to see me. I hurried down, and found the Colonel on horseback in the street.

"You will evacuate the village without a moment's delay," exclaimed he. "The guns are all limbered up and ready. Take them with you,—fall back half a mile or so into the plain—and there wait till I join you."

"Good God! Sir," replied I, "the thing is impossible. The enemy are close upon us, and any attempt on our part to retreat now must be fatal."

"You have your orders, Sir," replied he, "and I expect that you will obey them."

There was no remonstrating, for he disappeared as he uttered these words. I was perfectly savage: indeed I believe that I should have disobeyed him, let the consequences be what they might, had this been possible; but it was not. I had returned to my station on the house-top, maintaining a judicious silence in reference to my instructions, when suddenly the troops in possession of several cottages near began to escape out of them. "He has ordered the retreat himself," said I, "and we too must obey it. How can it be done?"

"Faix thun, yer honour," replied Darby, who stood near, and, with his accustomed self-possession, scrupled not to take part in my very deliberations, "I'm thinking the best way will be to fire a few rounds at that chap with the red night-cap, and then lave wig and ban-boxes behind, and give them leg-bair."

"So be it," exclaimed I. "Fire away, boys!"

The fire was given, with what effect I cannot tell, farther than that it sent all the Turks scampering. Caps and knapsacks were then left upon the parapet, while we, leaping down, took to our heels, and soon joined the rest of the detachment beyond the village. The guns were with them. Something like order was restored, and away we went at a long-trot into the heart of the plain.

There is nothing connected with this unfortunate expedition which occasions to me more surprise than that those at the head of affairs should have paid such slight regard to the signs and warnings which were absolutely forced upon them. The night previous to this advance a party of the enemy's force had thrown themselves across the lake, between the position of El Hamet and the portion of the army engaged in the siege. Neither General Stewart nor Colonel Macleod could be ignorant of this fact, for to the latter I reported it as soon as I arrived; and the former received his information from a second detachment, which the enemy was strong enough to intercept and drive back to El Raschid. Upon what ground can we account for their disregard of it? To say that they might regard this party as a handful of stragglers or plunderers, is to talk nonsense. Nothing could be gained by the irruption of stragglers between two portions of an army. But a regular corps established in that interval would be able to accomplish great things, should Mohamed Ali have seriously determined, on an attack at El

Hamet. My own opinion is that General Stewart calculated on the maintenance of his post by Colonel Macleod, till he himself should be able with his entire army to succour him. And had this been attempted judiciously the scheme might have answered. But Colonel Macleod, at the very moment when every other resource had ceased to be attainable, gave up the scheme as beyond his accomplishment. He determined to retreat; and the more to embarrass himself—the more to unfit his troops for resistance, he made his dispositions for this retrograde movement precisely as he ought not to have made them. Let me explain Mohamed Ali's plan, and the truth of the criticism will be demonstrated.

When the detachment of horse, of which I have spoken as moving towards our right, was sent off from the main body, orders were given to the officer in command that he should form the lake, and take up a position in our rear, so as at once to threaten us on our own ground, and to render our retreat from it eminently perilous. Simultaneously with the execution of that manœuvre, a few hundred men moved towards the river, in order to amuse Major Vogelsang and his people, and keep him from observing how it fared with others. Meanwhile Mohamed made ready to force the village, against which all the weight of his column was directed; and then proposed to fall in detail upon the wings, of which the destruction would be inevitable. It is of course impossible to say how far the plan would have succeeded, because much would depend upon the obstinacy of the defence at the village and round it. But the arrangements were worthy of all praise; they were the very best which under the circumstances could have been made. How sad is the contrast which our system of defence presents, even though we shut our eyes to the negligence which drove us upon its adoption! Instead of holding the village as the key of his position, and drawing in his detachments from the right and left; instead of desiring us to keep El Hamet to the last man, in order that these detachments might have time to meet and form in our rear, Colonel Macleod commanded us, just as the firing began, to retreat, and so permitted his little army to be broken up into three detachments, against each of which, as it best suited his own convenience, it was competent for the Vizier to direct the whole weight of his multitudes.

We made good our retreat in the order which has just been explained. We gave our fire from the house-top, we saw the Albanians throw themselves down among the bushes, Red Turban disappeared, and then we took to our heels. It was literally devil take the hindmost through the village; and even beyond there was no disposition to linger. But the necessity of keeping the ranks entire, and being prepared for resistance at any moment, was not slow in evincing itself. On came the Turkish horse like the rush of a mighty river. They sprang over the embrasures in the road—they swept down, howling ferociously, into the plain—and then in front, in rear, and on either flank, they galloped here and there, waving their scimitars, and making every demonstration of an immediate attack. We preserved our order with great care, halting from time to time to unlimber one or both of the guns, but not firing; for no sooner was the muzzle pointed towards them than the Arabs drew off, and we resumed our march again as steadily as before.

We had not proceeded far along the plain, when a body of troops, which we immediately recognised as a portion of De Roll's Regiment,

was seen moving towards us from the left of the position. Whether Macleod had sent orders for this retreat, while he himself proceeded to draw off the detachment on the right—or whether Major Vogelsang, observing that we had fallen back, concluded, of his own accord, that a general retrogression had been determined on, I do not know. I never had an opportunity of inquiring into the facts of the case; but this much is certain, that he left one half of his people to cover the movement, and with the other half obliqued across the plain so as to connect himself with us at a moment when the increase of numbers could not but be acceptable to both detachments. We formed square together, keeping our guns in the centre, and found that we mustered in all about three hundred and seventy or eighty bayonets.

We had nothing now to do except to wait quietly in our ranks till Colonel Macleod, with his division from the right, should arrive. We were threatened perpetually, though no serious attack took place. But, if idle ourselves, it was manifest, from the heavy firing on both flanks of us, that our comrades were not so tenderly dealt with. Neither was it to us the least annoying part of the business, that, except from the sustained roar of cannon and musketry, there were no means of ascertaining how the conflict went; for the country round was one vast sea of sand, broken up, like the ocean in a stiff breeze, into frequent waves, yet in no single spot so far elevated above the others as to give to him who might attain the summit of a mound, any commanding view over the rest. The firing, however, which had for a brief space prevailed with equal fury on the left as on the right, suddenly ceased in the former of these directions. Then came the enemy, both horse and foot, thundering into the plain; and our hearts told us—alas too truly—that Major Vogelsang's reserve, after performing prodigies of valour, had died to a man under the scimitars of their assailants.

The evidence of this disaster, which the fierce and rapid advance of the enemy afforded, affected us very deeply. Dismayed we certainly were not; on the contrary, I can answer for myself, that I never doubted as to our ultimate safety, because I saw that the men were steady and resolute; and it was impossible to doubt that assistance would speedily reach us. On this, indeed, I calculated as a matter of course; because a tower, on which General Stewart always kept a sentry, a sort of detached post of communication between his corps and the force at El Hamet, was distinctly visible; and it was just to conclude that he, being informed of our danger, would hazard the very existence of himself and his people to bring us off. In like manner, knowing that Colonel Macleod's division was very nearly as numerous as our own, and that it consisted of troops, than which there were none superior in the British Army, we all felt comparatively at ease concerning him. Yet I confess that my own wishes pointed to a march in his direction, partly because it would be best to complete the junction, at all hazards, speedily; and partly because, if we could once gain the lake, our retreat to Alexandria was secured. But the orders which had been given to me were peremptory, and I did not care to disobey them. Fearing nothing, therefore, though not free from distrust—hoping the best, yet not devoid of anxiety,—we kept our ground; a compact square being formed about the guns, and skirmishers lying out in advance of

its several faces, to check the approach of weak parties, and give timely warning when stronger bodies might be about to charge.

There was an incessant but desultory fire in the direction of the lake, which from minute to minute became more close. We strained our eyes in the direction, and in about half an hour, throughout the whole of which *we* had continued unmolested, clouds of dust and smoke became visible, and the battle rolled towards us. We looked eagerly, and beheld, in due time, a small and compact body of troops marching steadily across the desert, as if it had been moving at a review. Clouds of Arabs were round it,—infantry on three sides, and horsemen on the fourth; to whose unceasing fusillade the column paid no attention, except by levelling its guns from time to time, and by a single discharge driving the assailants to a distance. It would be impossible to conceive any movement more beautiful or more animating than this. "All is right—all is right," cried I, delighted; "we shall make good our junction after all, and Macleod, if he did err in the beginning, will redeem the blunder by the skill and energy with which he conducts the retreat." Alas! I had calculated beyond my host. While I yet spoke our skirmishers came running in with loud cries, "the cavalry are upon us;" and in a moment we, who had heretofore stood neutral, found ourselves in the thick of a fierce and desperate encounter.

There is no task more invidious than that of him who is compelled, in the vindication of historical truth, to throw censure upon the conduct of others. Willingly would I be spared this, the most unpleasant part of my duty; but I do not remember that any just account has yet been given of this affair even in the Gazette, and I cannot bring myself, in obedience to the whispers of a mistaken delicacy, to sanction so grievous an injustice. The affair of El Hamet, though eminently disastrous, was the reverse of discreditable to those who took part in it. It was a contest between a few hundred men on the one side, and as many thousands on the other, which might have ended, and would have ended, gloriously for the British arms, had the General-in-Chief known how to take advantage of the emergency. Never let it be forgotten that, on the night of the 22nd, General Stewart, when endeavouring to make his way to his own rear-guard, was interrupted and driven back by a body of the enemy's horse. As a soldier, we ought to have felt that no trifling detachment would have had the hardihood to interpose itself between two divisions of his army, had there not been support near at hand. Moreover, his own position was at this very time one of imminent hazard. With not more than twelve hundred bayonets he was carrying on the siege, as it was called, of El Raschid; that is to say, he was manning a chain of trenches which extended for nearly two miles from the left bank of the Nile to the fort of St. Julien; and firing from batteries which were here and there erected on that line, and worked with far more of zeal than skill by detachments of seamen from the fleet. Meanwhile his rear-guard was six good miles removed from him; and he had received the most palpable proof, that between him and it the communication was not open. How could any man so circumstanced lie down in peace, or trust even till the morrow for the accomplishment of arrangements, by any failure in which the safety of his entire army might be compromised? Observe, I do not say that the General went

quietly to bed; he may have sat up and fretted sleep away for aught I know to the contrary; but it is certain that till day-light on the 28rd he never thought of moving; and when he did begin to think about it he made all his movements with such deliberation, that two full hours ere he began his march the unfortunate rear-guard was destroyed. What were the battering-guns, and the petty stores of ammunition, in comparison with the lives of five or six hundred men? Yet, though the perilous situation in which we were placed must have been known to him, he would not quit his lines till his guns had all been buried, his magazines blown up, and the other formalities usually attendant on the raising of a siege, gone through. The guns, if left in the batteries, might have fallen in the hands of the Turks for a season; but, had he joined us in time, a great victory would have been gained, and the same evening would have seen us in possession, not only of our lost artillery, but of El Rasehid and St. Julien, and the enemy's stores into the bargain. I assert this without scruple, because it is a fact that four hundred men stopped the whole of the Vizier's army for nearly five hours, and so crippled it that General Stewart was enabled to fall back upon Alexandria with comparatively little annoyance, and no loss whatever. But this is not all; he waited, as if his object had been to bring out the garrison of El Raschid in his rear; and, to sum up the whole, took precisely the direction which he ought not to have taken, by marching on Lake Edko. How different the result would have been had he marched early in the day, with his whole force, on the village!

I have said that, just as our hopes of being speedily joined by Colonel Macleod's division were at the highest, our own skirmishers came pouring in, with loud cries that the cavalry were advancing. Instantly the word was given—"Down front ranks, and be steady;" and instantly and nobly the order was obeyed. The first ranks knelt down; those behind them stood, with shouldered arms, and there was silence as deep and unbroken as in the chamber of death. For myself, I will not pretend to say what my feelings were. I beheld three separate masses of cavalry, each equal, in point of numbers, to our little square, moving at a quick pace towards us—one leading; the other two, for a while, in the rear, and then edging off to the right and left, so as to threaten three sides at the same instant. On they all came, till they arrived within, perhaps, three hundred yards of us, when they suddenly pulled up, as if to breathe their horses; then followed a scene of no ordinary interest,—when their commanders, either to encourage on their own people, or to strike terror into us, rode forward over the intervening space, and, brandishing their javelins, or waving their swords about, approached, in many instances, within less than half pistol-shot of our bayonets. Several of them, too, more hardy than the rest, discharged both their pistols and carbines at us, while two or three threw their javelins with extraordinary force and precision. But our fellows did not think it necessary to let them have all the amusement to themselves. A dropping fire was given, under which one of the boldest of these cavaliers fell; and then both sides set to their work in real earnest.

NARRATIVE OF THE LATE CARLIST EXPEDITION FROM THE PROVINCES.

BY AN EX-CARLIST OFFICER.

No. III.

EARLY on the morning of the 24th, the Carlist army was formed in dense columns near the village of Villar, in anxious expectation of battle. About ten o'clock intelligence was received that the enemy was advancing from Herrera; at about eleven Don Carlos and his Court retired to Nogueras under a small escort, and Moreno, the Chief of the Staff, proceeded to take up his position on ground which he had previously minutely reconnoitred. A fertile and uneven valley stretches from Villar de los Navarros to Herrera, on the north, betwixt two rugged ranges of hills, and is about four miles in length and three in width. It is the first of any extent between the barren mountains of Higher Arragon, and the wide, luxuriant plains of the "Campo Carinena." Although the soil is in many parts rugged and broken, it is nowhere sufficiently so to impede the action of cavalry; and the undulation of the ground renders it a favourable spot for the exercise of military ingenuity, by affording opportunities of concealing the movements of opposed masses.

Burens, probably surprised at hearing nothing of Oraa, was said to have resolved at last to attack the Carlists single-handed, trusting to his good fortune and the tardy co-operation of his superior. There was, however, still some hesitation in his conduct: his force, which consisted of somewhere above 7000 infantry and 500 cavalry, was moved slowly forward in very broad columns along the eastern side of the valley, until some detachments of light cavalry, which he had pushed forward, discovered the Carlist battalions grouped amidst the deeper undulations of the ground in the very centre of the valley, in numbers about 6000 foot and 700 cavalry. Burens had now no choice but attacking us or retreating, and our superiority of cavalry would not have allowed him to hope for an unmolested retreat. He now marched his columns from the eastern to the western side of the valley, without any object that I could ever discover—unless, indeed, being ignorant of the ground on that side, he imagined that it would admit of his passing us, and that he had made up his mind to await the approach of Oraa on the bank of the stream Almonacid, before he attacked us, unless forced to fight. As we occupied, however, the centre of the valley, he soon found that he could not on this side, more easily than on the other, ascend it without performing that perilous operation in warfare, a flank march in presence of an enemy, within a most dangerous proximity; and he, therefore, lost no time in forming his troops in battle. The Carlist forces were disposed in a curved line, the right wing being where their centre would have been if Burens had fallen on his enemy by coming directly up the valley, and not, as it were, attacking them sideways. The left wing rested on a hill in the vicinity of the village of Villar, much higher than any of the neighbouring undulations of the ground, although it appeared dwarfish when contrasted with the more gigantic children of the Sierras, by which the valley was inclosed. The right wing, which consisted of

the Arragonese division, commanded by Quilez, was protected by three 4-pounders and 400 cavalry. The Castilian and Navarrese divisions (or rather sub-divisions, for it appears ridiculous to talk of the divisions of an army of 8000 men), under Don Bascilio Garcia and Pablo Sanz, occupied the centre, with the 2nd Regiment of Navarrese Lancers, now reduced to 200 horse, and a battalion of Alavese and 100 cavalry were on the left.

At about three o'clock P.M., the Queenites having established a battery of four pieces opposite the right of the Carlist centre, commenced the attack. Both armies, as usual with Spaniards, were formed in column, and some heavy masses first moved slowly and steadily forward against the right of the Carlists: clouds of skirmishers preceding them, supported by a body of 200 horse, gallantly advanced, and, driving those of the Carlists before them, separated themselves too far, not only from the main body, but from the protecting horsemen, who, wedged into a solid column, had just found room to nestle in a slight hollow, where they were somewhat protected from the shot, and still near enough to inspire their skirmishers with full confidence. At this moment Colonel Thomas Reyna hastily took the command of Manueline's squadron—a corps which, although then reduced to 60 or 70 men, had been admirably chosen by this partizan chief, and for appearance, courage, and discipline, was probably superior to any in either army—and dashing “*en fourrageur*” through the intervals of the retiring troops, in an instant had cut off a great part of the enemy's astonished line of *tirailleurs*.

The mass of horse immediately attempted to deploy to charge him, and at that moment the Carlist battery opened. As the Carlists had been possessed of no artillery since the passage of the Arga, the report of their cannon produced a startling effect on the Christinos, particularly as, under the conviction that they were without any, they had advanced thus far; and such an effect had this unexpected salute, that the mass which was endeavouring to deploy was thrown into considerable confusion, and Reyna taking no notice of the isolated skirmishers who were throwing down their arms around him, formed his men in the most beautiful manner in a single line, and boldly charging the two hundred horse, broke and scattered them to the winds, being only driven back by the heavy fire which the front ranks of the column of infantry, on which they took refuge, now opened upon him; he then hastily retired with upwards of a hundred prisoners, whom the Carlist skirmishers had meanwhile re-advanced to secure, and amidst the deafening cheers of the army. This brilliant, if unimportant, achievement, which was performed in half the time it has taken to relate, before the fight had elsewhere begun, and within view of both the armies, had, I have always thought, a decided influence on the event of the combat. Manueline, a celebrated guerrilla chief of cavalry in the commencement of the war, and captain of the squadron, together with another officer, was mortally wounded in the charge, and died a day or two afterwards. The infantry of Burens now advanced in masses on the right and centre, and as the columns rolled on, their skirmishers gaining courage, drove back those of the Carlists until these last were reinforced, which was repeatedly done, until at last their battalions had some of them, five or six out of eight companies, engaged as skirmishers, so as at last to form a long, close and continuous but

elastic line, against whose deadly fire no column could make head. This, throughout the war, has been the secret of the superiority of the infantry of the provinces over that of the rest of Spain; nothing would, probably, have induced Spanish generals on either side, to fight in line; but thus, unconsciously, the Carlists have long adopted the system, and in most of their actions with the Christinos, two-thirds of their force has been what they call "in guerrilla," and the column, in fact, became a mere reserve in no way engaged. When the broken ground has not admitted of the enemy's cavalry breaking through their army, or when their own cavalry was well able to keep it in check, the columns of the enemy rarely stood a chance against them. In the present instance, neither on the right nor centre could they make any impression, although various attempts, and repeated charges of the horse, which on both sides behaved exceedingly well, were made along the line; in most instances, however, so ill combined with the movements of the infantry, that they led to no result, excepting the momentary dispersion of the vanquished, who immediately formed again under the protection of their infantry, with trifling loss, which is seldom sustained in the charge, but rather in the subsequent pursuit. On the left, however, the Alavese battalion and the hundred cavalry posted there, notwithstanding the favourable nature of the ground, from the feebleness of the force, were several times near giving in; and I have no doubt that with a little more determination these positions (the occupation of which by the enemy would have led to the defeat of the Carlist army) might have been carried by Burens. The arrival of Villarcal, and exertion of all the presence of mind and intrepidity which he possesses during the space of one hour, were requisite to maintain this post, which Sopeluna, who had been observing the road to Darsca with the Alavese division of 2000 men, had long been momentarily expected to reinforce. Whatever his deficiencies may be as the General of an Army, or even of a large division, for a task of this kind, Villarcal is eminently fitted, and certainly performed wonders, in keeping his ground until Sopeluna's division debouched from behind the hill, which we have mentioned as being on the Carlists' left, and decided the fate of the day at the moment that Moreno was about to detach a reinforcement from his centre. This was a signal for the simultaneous advance of the Carlist line, which, particularly on the right, had long felt its superiority.

The second regiment of Navarre, headed by Colonel Martinez, and the whole of the cavalry on the right, now charged that of the enemy opposed to them, about the same time that the right wing of the Christino army gave way, without showing further fight, and was pursued by Villarcal, who, with the 5th Alavese battalion, pressed close upon the fugitives, and drove them pell-mell upon the centre. The charge of Martinez was successful, as far as utterly dispersing the cavalry, which alone kept the Navarrese and Castilian Brigades from advancing; but Quilez, at the head of his Arragonese cavalry, not only drove back the horse opposed to him, but burst in amongst the masses of the Christino's infantry, which, endeavouring to form into squares, and executing the movement exceedingly ill, were, as under all circumstances was to be expected, broken and scattered in every direction, and began to throw down their arms by whole companies.

Quilez was shot in the abdomen by a prisoner, and fell, unhappily, a

victim to his humanity; a quality so rare in Spaniards as to render this unfortunate requital of it in the case of this gallant officer the more to be lamented. Perceiving a knot of prisoners ill-treated by two or three of his Cossac cavalry (very different in point of discipline and appearance from those of Navarre), he advanced upon them, waving his drawn sword with a menacing gesture. One of the prisoners imagining that he was going to cut him down, and resolving to die game, snatched at a musket, which he fired at him with deadly effect: he did not, however, expire till the succeeding day.

The space of about ten minutes, from the time they first gave way, sufficed to complete the rout of the Christians. It is true that when their right wing gave way before the Carlist reserve, the fugitives from it carried terror and confusion into the centre, whose cavalry was driven back, and whose other supporting wing was broken almost at the same moment. Aware that they were in a country where, as in most parts of Spain, the Queen's soldier, if isolated, finds but a cold reception from the inhabitants, none thought of retreating into the Sierra, at the foot of which they had been fighting until the enemy was absolutely at their heels; but all flying down the valley made for the village of Herrera. So that those who fled from the right had to pass over the ground lately occupied by those on the left, and now in possession of the Carlists, who thus cut off two-thirds of the shattered force.

Although, as I have said, the cavalry, particularly that which came from the provinces, had behaved exceedingly well during the day, when once the cheer of victory was raised, and they were let loose amongst the broken infantry, they became as irreclaimable, and as much dispersed, as the infantry they were pursuing, whilst the greater part of that of the enemy made a rapid but orderly retreat, and to a certain extent protected the flight of some of the infantry who retired on Herrera. Burens fled with his cavalry, after remaining until in imminent peril, and doing all that a brave man could, short of perishing on the field which had borne witness to the triumph of his enemy.

Favoured by the approaching nightfall, the miserable remnant of Burens' force effected its escape in the direction of Carinena, excepting about three hundred of the rear, which had not had time to defile through the village, when some Arragonese horsemen spurred round to the other side, and contented themselves with cutting them off, leaving a mob of some fifteen hundred men to retire in peace through the darkness. It is true their horses were so dead-beat that they could scarcely move a step, having reached the spot after the pursuit of some of the infantry through a rocky wood at the foot of the Sierra, which seemed almost impassable to cavalry, and where many, in the ardour of the chase, had climbed so high, and into such craggy places, that they could not get their horses down again. The three hundred cut off in the village defended, however, themselves till the arrival of a sufficient force of infantry, and then surrendered at discretion. Amongst them was the General of Brigade, Solano, second in command.

So complete was the defeat, that the remnant of Burens' column kept entering Carinena and Saragossa for many hours, only by fives, and tens, and scores, and not one corps of two hundred men together. Three pieces of artillery, thirty-three mule-loads of cartridges, the military chest, 4500 muskets, 150 horses, and 2400 prisoners, exclusive

of 100 officers, amongst which the Colonel of the Regiment del Principe, and 300 wounded, abandoned. Above three hundred of the enemy killed on the field; but never since the commencement of the war did the Carlists seem animated by so humane a spirit: in fact, perhaps rarely under such circumstances, have any troops evinced similar forbearance: although heated by an action of some hours, and the sufferings of a weary campaign, which had not been hitherto conducted in the same merciful spirit; although after the final dispersion they might have slain some thousands of the enemy, literally not twenty lives were sacrificed in the pursuit, and a universal good humour and hilarity seemed to have taken the place of all the evil passions which, unhappily, too often, after the battle gained, or city won, stand forth in all their hideous colouring.

We only witnessed one man endeavouring to take the life of a fugitive, and regret to state that he was an officer. He was, however, deprived of his sword by the Brigadier Cabanas, son of the Minister of War, who, although in all the hurry of pursuit, turned back to give him a chivalrous reprimand. Much, of course, in these cases, always depends on the chiefs, and the example set by them; and, fortunately, those who principally led the cavalry, Cabanas, Reyna, and Martinez, united all the humane, gentlemanlike feeling of educated men, with the impetuous bravery of youth. It would probably have been just as easy to incite their followers to a promiscuous slaughter.

The loss of the Carlists amounted to 340 killed and wounded, of whom 150 were in the brigade of Pablo Sanz. Fifteen officers were also killed or mortally wounded, among whom were Quilez, Manueline, Otaiza, Colone of the Battalion of Guides, and nine cavalry officers. Sixty horses were also lost in the action. By midnight the whole army was quartered in Herrera, where it was joined next day by the King, who amused himself by creating Moreno a Captain-General, and distributing honours and rewards. It remained here, and at Villar de los Navarros, in the most complete inaction till the 29th, probably awaiting some movement on the part of Oraa, whose army, reinforced by that of Nogueras, now again amounted to 11,000. He did not, however, find it prudent to attack the Carlists, especially as Daroca was a most convenient point from whence to watch, with all the advantage which his antagonists were far from sharing, of abundant provisions and comfortable quarters. As he was also daily expecting Espartero, there was no earthly reason for his falling on an army flushed with victory, of which its chiefs seemed disposed to let inactivity wither all the fruits. 1500 of the prisoners voluntarily enrolled themselves in the Carlist ranks: the rest were sent to the depot at Cantaviga.

On the 30th of August, the approach of Espartero and intelligence from Cabrera induced Moreno to move southward to effect a junction with him, and run the hazard of a decisive action in a country where the superiority of cavalry would be of little avail. On the 1st of September we reached Calamocha, Espartero being within some leagues' march with 18,000 infantry and 2800 horse; his infantry, however, in miserable plight, whilst the Provincial Army, which was again recruited to 10,000, was full of enthusiasm, and in excellent order.

On the 3rd some skirmishing took place between the Carlist rear and the van of the enemy; and in the evening the Royal Army reached

Orihuela, a very small town, although an episcopal residence, at the foot of a wide sierra, which you must traverse a few leagues to enter New Castille. Here we turned at bay, in more favourable and magnificent positions than even any part of the Basque provinces afford to an infantry force, and awaited the attack of a more numerous but wholly dispirited army, whose leader, we were well aware, was most unwillingly, and against his better judgment, forced to do battle by the opinion of the impatient democracy he served. By the Madrid mob he had already been cried down as a traitor, whilst insubordination was gaining ground amongst his troops, and the late murders of a host of Generals showed too well its fearful consequences.

Moreno reconnoitred his positions minutely, and prepared every thing for the morrow, which all looked forward to with the most perfect confidence. The wild sierra, covered with impenetrable forests, was behind us, and on ground inaccessible to cavalry, which looked far over the barren plain in our front, we had taken up our position occupying all the passages through the mountains into New Castille. "All circumstances would allow Espartero to retire without fighting, and it was equally impossible to remain long opposite in an exhausted country, and he would therefore have been forced to attack us under all disadvantages. Towards nightfall, on a rising ground about two miles out in the plain, the enemy's watchfires gradually blazed in a long beautiful line; and the night being cold and misty, and our army bivouacing close to large forests of fir, hundreds of immense roaring bonfires illumined our encampment, and it was not till late that the busy hum, the sound of the guitar, the shrill neighing of the piqueted horses, and the intenseness of the blaze gradually subsided and diminished.

TO THOSE AT SEA.

High let the goblet now be crown'd,
 And by the brave, the firm, the true,
 Let it from every lip go round
 To those whom last we bade adieu.
 Hark! the wind roars, the billows rise,
 Perchance for shelter now they flee;
 Here, brethren, drink to fairer skies
 And smoother waves to those at sea.

How many noble hearts that beat
 Around this board, ere morn may have
 The billow for their winding-sheet,
 The weed or coral for their grave.
 Then to their safety fill again,
 High cause to toast their good have we;
 Here's to the riders of the main,
 The ocean kings, the far at sea.

S. R. JACKSON.

A RAMBLE IN PERSIA;

COMPRISING AN EXCURSION FROM TEHRAN TO THE ROCK OF THE ASSASSINS.

THE Persian summer had just commenced when we, a party of four, proposed to take an excursion across the mountains of Elboorz, and change, for a brief time, the arid plains and barren mountains of Irak, for the forests and swamps of Māsenderān, and revive our recollections of home by a glimpse at that miniature sea, the Caspian.

On the evening of the 20th, May we marched out of the dusky mud walls of Tehrān, and, proceeding ten miles towards the N.W., over a stony plain, reached the village of Kend, which is situated close under the range of Elboorz. This place is of some extent and considerable affluence, for here, during the heat and unhealthiness of a Tehrān summer, many of the inhabitants of that city reside. Abundance of excellent fruit is produced in the gardens in which Kend is buried; and among the rocks of the adjacent mountains wild goats and wild sheep abound. The late king Fetteh Ali Shah, who was a keen sportsman, built here a hunting-seat, that he might indulge his taste for the fatiguing chase of these animals, which rarely quit their almost inaccessible haunts. His admiration for the female sex being equal to his passion for hunting, this, like every similar edifice which he built, contained accommodations for the large retinue of women which always accompanied him.

Next morning we marched, in a westerly direction, eighteen miles, to the small village of Soolēmāneeh, or Kerej, situated one mile from Elboorz, close to a wide stream of the latter name, which rises in the above mountains, and is lost in the Keveer, or salt desert, south of Teherān. The late king built a large palace here, and made it his halting-place in his annual excursions to Sooltāneeh, where he used to muster and exercise his troops. This palace is remarkable for nothing excepting a large picture, which occupies one side of the principal room, containing full-size portraits of Agha Moohemmed Khan Kājār, the founder of the present dynasty, and of the chiefs of his tribe, who raised him to the throne. He, with a countenance full of grim ferocity, is placed on a throne, while his chiefs, accoutred in coats of mail, with steel caps, and dressed in their high Tartar boots, are seated on chairs around him. The painting is said to be an excellent likeness, but the expression of the face is most unpleasing, or even painful, and prepares the beholder for the recital of the cruelties which he perpetrated. Yet a vigorous tyrant like Agha Moohemmed Khan is the sovereign that bestows happiness on a nation similar to Persia, for it is only a few, such as the nobility about the court, and the officials of high rank, who feel the effect of his tyranny and caprice, while the mass of the people, secure in obscurity, know him chiefly as the preserver of tranquillity, and the punisher of oppression, which Agha Moohemmed Khan detested in others, though he loved it so much himself. His memory is venerated to this day as the protector of the peasant, and the scourge of the robbers and plunderers who infested the highways, whom he was inexorable in punishing. The Persians often tell an anecdote illustrative of this point in his character. Travelling on one occasion, he separated from his train, and, advancing towards a peasant, who was driving an ass loaded with fruit to market, he ordered him, in the usual

fashion of a Persian soldier, to give him a handful. The peasant refused to comply with the demand, upon which the king, stooping down from his horse, endeavoured to seize a portion of the fruit. This was resisted by the peasant, who brandished his cudgel and exclaimed,—“Oh, man, whose father is a dog! is Agha Moohemmed Khan dead, that you dare to plunder me? By the head of the King, if Agha Moohemmed Khan is alive, you shall be blown from a mortar to-morrow!” The sequel may be imagined; the king was highly pleased, and, discovering himself, gave the peasant a present.

There is another anecdote which puts his character in a different light, and which I may as well relate:—A certain district having revolted, Agha Moohemmed Khan ordered his Minister, Mirza Shefee, to pull out some dozens of eyes of the inhabitants, and bring them to his presence: The mode of operation is not very refined. The sufferer is thrown on his back, and a carpet-spreader, soldier, or any other person equally ineexpert, gets on his breast, and with his knife or dagger scoops out the eyes from the sockets. The Minister placed the eyes on a tray, and conveyed them to the King. Agha Moohemmed Khan, after gazing at the ghastly sight, drew his dagger, and commenced counting the eyes, separating them with the point. He scowled at his Minister, and said,—“By the One Great God, Mirza Shefee, by the One Great God, if there be an eye wanting yours shall make up the number!”

On the 21st we left Sorlemānecah at sunrise, and, quitting the high-road which leads to Casveen and Tabreez, we struck off to the N.W., having Elboorz on our right, at distances varying from three to five miles. We marched fourteen miles to the small village of Koordan, where we halted to breakfast and allow the heat of the day to pass. In the evening we resumed our journey, and reached a large village, called Fooshend, seven miles farther on, surrounded by fine gardens. Our road lay through a flat country, sprinkled with some villages; and a number of the earthen hillocks which are spread over the plain between Tehrān and Casveen were visible. These mounds are about thirty or forty feet in height, and I have heard it surmised that anciently they were employed as a sort of telegraph; it seems, however, more rational to suppose that they were fortified villages, for the plains on the right bank of the Tigris, in Mesopotamia, are covered with mounds of the same description, the greater part of which, like those I have alluded to, are in ruins, without any habitations, while others have villages at their base, with dwellings and a parapet at the top.

On the 22nd we left Fooshend at dawn, at which time the thermometer was only 61°, and entered immediately the Elboorz range, by a defile which soon changed into a fatiguing ascent of several miles, after surmounting which we commenced descending another long defile into the very rugged district of Tālikān, which is about thirty miles in length and ten in breadth. It is bounded on the south by the range we had just crossed, and on the north by still more lofty mountains, but in spite of these unfavourable features it contains a great number of villages, with considerable cultivation, being fertilised by the Shahrood river, which rises at its eastern extremity, and falls into the Kiziloran river. The district is in charge of a gentleman named Mirza Nebbee Khan, who was an intimate acquaintance of all our party, and through whose

hospitable anticipation we were received with a hearty welcome at the village of Fooshendek. A comfortable room, well carpeted, was prepared for our reception, while an ample breakfast, in the usual Persian style of that season of the year, cheese, curds, honey, cream, eggs, and fruit, was prepared immediately on our arrival. The change of climate from Tehrân was indicated by the thermometer, which now marked only 70° at noon, while no doubt our companions at that city were panting at 85°. It is the great luxury of Persia that one is generally able to make choice of a climate. Tehrân is in summer one of the most unhealthy and disagreeable spots in the world, but a few hours' ride conveys one to the elevated and healthy valleys which are stretched near the foot of the mountain of Deinfâvend.

After breakfast we remounted and descended to the banks of the Shahrood, which we found to be a wide noisy torrent: we travelled down the stream through a well-cultivated hilly country, and arrived late in the evening at the village of Meer, near the Shahrood, having ridden that day about twenty-four miles.

It has long been a project of the Persian government to convey the Shahrood into the plain of Casveen, where the soil is of the best quality, but is rendered unproductive from the want of water. The great difficulty was to induce the river to flow over the Elboorz, and this no one has succeeded in accomplishing.

Meer is a sanctuary; any person taking refuge from the pursuit of the government is in safety so long as he remains at this village. This privilege, so salutary in a despotic country, where oppression is the prevailing crime, is derived from the residence of a considerable number of Syeds, or descendants of Moohemmed, who possess a large portion of the land attached to the village. We were perfectly well received by these people, and I have often found Syeds, who happened not to be Moollahs, or merchants, to be among the most liberal of their faith. The assumption of sanctity by the merchants is strange enough, for their real claims are small. During a visit their lips are seen constantly in silent motion mumbling a prayer during the pauses of conversation, and they are said to destroy the tea-cups out of which Europeans have been drinking; yet with all this holiness they are notorious breakers of the law, by taking interest, which is so strictly forbidden in the Koran. An English merchant told me that once, when seated in his room, a Persian merchant rushed into the apartment, and, throwing a tea-cup on the table, said,—“There, take it for the love of the Prophet: thank God I am rid of it!” He then explained that, some months previously, happening to be present when a quantity of china had arrived from England, he was seized with an irresistible impulse to purloin some portion of it, and, watching an opportunity, had conveyed a tea-cup under his cloak, ever since which time he had had neither sleep nor peace of mind, and that he had come to make restitution in the hope of obtaining both. This man was worth 12,000*l*.

On the 23rd we left Meer at 10 A.M., and found the weather so agreeable that we travelled throughout the day without inconvenience; but so bad was the road that we did not accomplish more than ten miles in eight hours. The general direction was west and north-west: immediately after quitting Meer we descended to the bank of the river

Shahrood by a fearfully bad road, which occasionally was not more than a few inches in breadth, and sloping, moreover, with a deep precipice on the outer-hand. Prudence and nervousness rendered it necessary to dismount; but our horses, though accustomed only to the plains, travelled with perfect unconcern and safety. We then proceeded two miles on the bank of the river, and reached the foot of a high pass called Dooderrân, which we looked at despondingly when we found that it formed part of our road. The ascent was so exhausting to the horses that we found it necessary to rest them every twenty yards, and at length we were compelled to dismount, and, taking them by the tail, made them pull us up the mountain. We were fortunate enough to find abundance of the rhubarb plant growing on its side, which both assuaged thirst and diminished fatigue by its agreeable acid. Our course was about N.W., while the river flowed to the west.

At about the end of the 8th mile from Meer, thoroughly exhausted, we reached the top of the pass Dooderrân, and were now in the district of Alamoot. From this spot, which is said to be only six fersckhs from Casveen, we had an extensive view, on the south, of the plain in which we had travelled before ascending the mountains: to the west lay the mountain district of Roodbar, where, as well as in Alamoot, the assassins had several forts; the Shahrood flowed through this district, to the north of which were high snowy mountains separating it from Geelân. Two miles further on brought us to the miserable village of Yerek, where the people were in such poverty that we could scarcely procure any food to purchase. At Tehrân the fruit was now beginning to ripen, but this spot is so elevated that the trees were still in blossom; the fruit, however, does not ripen, either from bad culture, or the coldness of the temperature.

On the 24th of May we marched ten miles to the village of Gâzerkhanee. We commenced by an ascent of two miles over the Pichakooch range, and then, after passing several villages and travelling in the general direction of north, we reached, at the seventh mile, the river Shahrood of Alamoot, which rises in the eastern extremity of that district in the mountain of Seealân. It is a rapid torrent 15 yards wide, and falls into the Shahrood of Tâlikân. Three miles farther on brought us to the village of Gâzerkhanee, from whence, or rather shortly before reaching it, we beheld the eagle's nest—the rock of Alamoot. The inhabitants received us with civility, and told us that they had not been visited by more than two Europeans, one of whom we knew to be an Englishman, and the other a Russian, or rather a Pole. It being now late, we deferred our visit to the castle until morning.

Next day we proceeded two miles up a gradual ascent, and stood at the foot of the rock, a short distance from which flowed a small stream. It stands by itself nearly at the top of the ascent, three miles distant from a high range of mountains now covered with snow, separating it from Geelân. Six hundred yards from the rock there is a mound higher than it, by which it is overlooked; but in the days in which Alamoot was used as a fortress, this was a small disadvantage. The rock is a perfectly bare ridge 300 yards in length, from east to west, and very narrow at the top. The height on the north, south, and east sides was about 200 feet and 100 feet on the west; the whole, excepting on the north, where there was a bank of

earth which reached a considerable distance up the rock, exceedingly steep, nearly perpendicular, giving it so complete an appearance of strength, as apparently to render its capture impossible, at a period when artillery was unknown. In the vicinity of the rock all is desolation and barrenness; not a single habitation disturbs the melancholy solitude of the scene; where the eagle and the lizard are now the sole tenants. We commenced the ascent by a path which wound round the mound on the north side of the rock. We had reached a considerable height without any difficulty, and were within a short distance of the top, when we were suddenly brought to a full pause by the disappearance of the path and the sight of a dangerous spot which it was necessary we should cross. It was some ten yards in length, the path, or rather track, about 2 inches in breadth, and formed of slippery gravel. On the right was a sloping rock, so smooth that it could not be grasped; on the left a straight fall of 140 or 150 feet. It was quite clear that slipping and dying were here equivalent words. S—t took the lead, and crossed, with the aid of the guides. One of the latter persuaded me to mount on his back, and, though it probably was the safest, it certainly was a most alarming method. I never felt more uncomfortable sensations than when I perceived myself hanging over the precipice, while the guide slowly picked his steps with a care, which to me seemed trepidation; nor could I, without great difficulty, in spite of his exhortations, refrain from grasping at the rock. We all crossed in safety: at our return no persuasions of the guides could induce me to renew the experiment. At the top, excepting a fine and extensive view of the mountain, there was little to behold. The breadth of the rock did not exceed 20 feet to 25 feet. The remains of a few bastions and of a wall encircling the rock are to be traced; there are also several other low walls formed of lime and uncut stones, which appear to have belonged to apartments. There were also three reservoirs, apparently intended for water. In the sides of the rock near the top there were several large holes, which were probably store-rooms for provisions, or they might have been the wine and honey cellars into which Von Hammer describes the Moguls to have fallen and been drowned when Alamoot was captured by Hoolakoo Khan. The rock is divided into two parts at the top, one higher than the other; at the lower, which we entered first on our ascent, there is a small tunnel or arch cut through the solid rock, the object of which was to us unaccountable, because it was at nearly the highest part of the lower portion of the rock. The southern front is the highest and steepest side, and commands also the finest prospect, of which the view is very grand. Here, we fancied, might be the small apartment from which for thirty-five years Hossen Sebâh moved only on two occasions, and here might be the spot from which delinquents were hurled, and from which the Fedwee, the devoted novices, precipitated themselves at a signal from their mountain chief, in evidence of their faith, obedience, and devotion.

This, then, was all that remained of the eagle's nest, and of the wonderful dominion which was established by the mighty mind of one man. On the spot from which we gazed were planned schemes of blood, which were to be executed with unerring certainty in Egypt and Syria, Persia and Asia Minor; here murder was hatched, and here the assassin sharpened his dagger with the assurance that he was executing a divine

command, and that eternal bliss awaited the performance of the crime, should he perish in the perpetration. The mandates of slaughter issued at Alamoot were obeyed from the Oxus to the Mediterranean, and monarchs trembled at the name of the Shékhood Jebel. Sooltân Senjar, one of the last of the great Seljookes, prepared an army to extirpate this pestilent sect. In his tent, close to his bed-side, a dagger buried in the ground to the hilt was found, bearing this inscription on a scroll,—"Sooltân Senjar, the arm that buried this dagger in the earth might have thrust it into thy bosom—beware!"

There being not much to excite curiosity, our stay on the rock was not very protracted, besides which we felt an unpleasant restlessness to place ourselves at the other side of the bad part of the road.

In the vicinity of the rock there were no ruins or mounds to denote the site of the city which Von Hammer describes to have existed there, and which the opulence of Alamoot was so certain to produce. The ignorance of our guides and of the villagers on the subject of Alamoot was complete; excepting what they had learned from Europeans, they possessed no information regarding the occupants of the rock. Not far from the castle there was a burial-ground, where we, with the hope of finding some inscriptions, persuaded them to dig, under the impression that the graves were not those of Mahomedans. We were unsuccessful in our search, but the villagers discovered, with much disgust, that they had been defiling the graves of Mussulmans, as they believed them to be, in consequence of the feet of the bodies being directed towards Mecca; the likelihood of which circumstance had escaped our recollection, for, though the Assassins were, in reality, of no religion, they complied with all the external observances of Islamism.

The adherents to the precepts of Hessen Sebâh, once so numerous, are now few and scattered. In Persia their number is very limited. The most numerous division is said to be collected in India, particularly at Indore and Ougein, where, under the name of Bohrehs, they perhaps retain a portion of the faith of their founder, though they profess to be Mahomedans. They avoid intercourse with the other believers in that faith, and their marriages are restricted to their own tribe: instead, however, of aiming to perpetuate the sanguinary doctrines, or at least practice, of their founder, they devote themselves to the peaceful occupations of commerce, and live in seclusion.

In Persia, according to popular belief, and his own assertions, there still remains a descendant of the successor of Hessen Sebâh, who is recognised in that capacity by the Bohrehs, as their religious chief; his name is Agha Khan: within the last year he has revolted from the Shah, and, like his great progenitor, has established himself in a hill fort, called Bamm, in the province of Kerman. He has hitherto resisted the efforts which have been made to subdue him, the contributions of his adherents in India enabling him to maintain a small body of troops, which are employed in committing depredations on the neighbouring country. His career is likely to be short, his followers not being bound to him by any religious tie, and the hope of plunder being the only motive by which they are actuated in their adherence to him.

Persia has from very remote ages been the theatre of strange and extravagant religious or philosophical systems, and so lately even as last year, a priest announced himself as the person delegated by God

to be the precursor of Imam Mehdee, the last Imam, who vanished some hundreds of years ago, and who is to reappear on earth.

In the sixth century, before the era of Moohemmed, a Persian named Mesdek introduced his system, which obtained great prevalence throughout Persia. The chief tenets were universal liberty and equality, the indifference of human actions, and the community of property and of women. Strangely enough, his opinions were adopted by the monarch of Persia, Kobâd, whose son, Nowsheerwân the Just, slew the philosopher, and repressed the diffusion of his system, though with some difficulty.

In the ninth century, Babek e Khoorremmee introduced his doctrines, which resembled those of Mesdek. They endured for twenty years, and caused so much disorder and bloodshed, that one million of men are supposed to have perished by the sword in that time.

About the same time the sect of the Karmathians was established by Ahmed of Kufa, a convert of Abdoolla Maimun of Ahwaz, whose tenets conformed with those of Mesdek. These Karmathians were called Ismaelees, from their belief that Imam Ismael (not the son of Abraham), the sixth Imam, was the last, which is denied by orthodox Mussulmans. Externally, this sect conformed to the Mohamedan faith; their doctrine was secret, and revealed by degrees; the last point and essence of the whole was to believe nothing, and to dare everything that was ordered by the Grand Master.

Hessen Sebâli, the founder of the Assassins, became a proselyte to this system. He was born at Rê near Tehrân, and lived at the time that the great Seljookee sovereign, Alp Arselap, was ruler of Persia. His inordinate ambition, which was supported by the highest class of talent, having caused his flight from Persia, he proceeded to Egypt, where the Ismaelee doctrines prevailed, and subsequently returned to Persia to diffuse his opinions.

His preaching having been attended with success, in the year 1090 he was able to seize the rock and castle of Alamoot, which Von Hammer, the Orientalist, says, signifies the *Vulture's Nest*, and which had been built two centuries and a half before. Here he dug wells and canals, and planted fruit-trees, not a trace of which now remains. He and every succeeding Grand Master was called Shêkh el jebel, which in Arabic signifies either the *Chief* or the *Old Man* of the mountain. The power of the order gradually extended to Syria, where, and throughout Persia, the principal hill forts were taken possession of. Poison and the dagger were now brought into requisition, and used relentlessly. People of all classes, who were supposed to be opposed to the order, suffered death at the decree of the Grand Master, against whose mandates neither rank, obscurity, nor distance were a defence. The bloody sovereignty of Hessen lasted thirty-five years, his own life having been prolonged to near one hundred. It is related that during the foregoing period he quitted his apartment at Alamoot only twice for a few moments to walk on the terrace of his castle. One of the closing acts of his career was the slaughter of his son for a breach of the rules of the order. The sovereignty did not descend to his offspring. His successor was one of his most devoted followers, named Kia Buzirgomid, in whose family it continued until the overthrow of the order, about the middle of the thirteenth century, by Hoolakoo Khan, the grandson of Chengeez.

Khân, by whom the castle of Alamoot was captured, and who destroyed the records of the order, with all the theological and philosophical works contained in the library. An affinity has been ascribed to the Assassins and Templars, from the alliances which often subsisted between the two orders during the crusades, from the supposed inculcation of atheistical doctrines by both, and from the resemblance of their dress. The Templar was clad in white garments with red crosses; the Assassin was arrayed in white robes with red turbans and girdles. The institutions of Hesseh-Sabâh and of Hugo de Payens preserved a resemblance in their extinction, both having been extirpated by the sword.

On the 26th we left Gazer Kianee, and retraced our steps to the Shahrood, up the right bank of which we proceeded nearly east over a tolerably good road close to the river, which flowed through a valley two or three miles in breadth. Water boiled here at 204° , indicating a height of 4000 feet. This day's march afforded us the prospect of the most agreeable scenery we had yet seen. High mountains lay on every side, among which the peaks of Selembar and Elboorz, at the eastern extremity of the valley of the Shahrood of Alamoot, were conspicuous. This last name is applied, as is well known, to the entire range, and here it is also used to designate a particular mountain. The banks of the river, throughout the greatest part of this day's journey, were covered with cultivation still perfectly green, and among the corn-fields abundance of fruit-trees were interspersed. Pleasing as was this view to the traveller, to the husbandman it afforded no cheering anticipations. The peasants with whom we conversed complained that, from the poverty of the soil, the crops were most scanty, and that the same cause prevented the fruit from reaching any perfection. We breakfasted under some fine walnut-trees close to the stream, which rushed by with a loud noise. The ready hospitality and civility of the Persian peasant usually secure a comfortable meal on these occasions; for though he, of course, expects remuneration, yet he is easily satisfied in general, and there is no denying that, with all his vices, and they form a heavy catalogue, the Persian has an enjoyment in exhibiting the virtue, barbarous though it be, of hospitality.

For a small party, the mode of travelling in Persia is extremely agreeable during spring and autumn, at which time the weather is delightful. The exercise is sufficient to produce an agreeable degree of fatigue, and the constant change of scene creates a portion of the excitement and independence which form the charm of the roaming life of the wandering tribes. The security of travelling in Persia, to Europeans at least, is remarkable; for though it is customary to carry arms, and perhaps judicious to display them, I am strongly disposed to assent to the opinion of Sir J. Malcolm, that the best weapon in Persia is an unloaded pistol.

After travelling twelve miles in the evening, we reached the village of Germerood, situated at the end of the valley opposite to the mountain of Elboorz, which lay to the south within a short distance. To the north the village is almost overhung by a range of high rocky mountains, from which gushed a fine cascade, and which seemed to threaten the village with destruction. This event was near happening some years ago, when an earthquake brought down a portion of the mountain, which destroyed a part of the village. We beheld the pass by which we were to cross in the morning into the district of Toonekâbân, and which,

by its formidable appearance, told us to prepare for an arduous task. It certainly proved excessively bad, yet did not equal the alarming descriptions of the villagers, who terrified our muleteer with accounts of the danger which his property was to undergo.

Hitherto we had been travelling in the province of Irak, but after crossing the pass of Germerood the province of Mâzenderân is considered to be entered. Mâz is said to signify a mountain in Pehlevee, and enderân in Persia implies inside; therefore the word implies *inside the mountains*. The Persians are, however, rather addicted to fanciful derivations. Gîlan they derive from *gil*, mud, in consequence of the marshy nature of that province.

On the 27th, after hiring a number of the villagers to aid in carrying the baggage up the steepest part, a task it was said the mules would be unable to accomplish loaded, we left Germerood, and very soon after commenced mounting the pass, which proved to be one of the worst I have ever ascended, at least in Persia. It was of great length, seven miles, according to our estimation, and exceedingly steep. Though we crossed without any accident, there was some degree of danger in the ascent. The soil was composed of a very fine dusty clay, over which was spread a large quantity of stones and rocks of all sizes, which had been chiefly brought down from above by the earthquake. These stones, having no hold on the loose soil, were very liable to roll down from above, particularly when pushed by the exertions of the horses and mules in ascending. Those who were in front had nothing to fear, but their successors were obliged to watch carefully and avoid the descending stones, which could only be done by sheltering oneself behind a rock, and waiting patiently until those in front had passed out of the direct line. It brought to my mind forcibly a scene I had witnessed in the Himalaya. We were ascending a very steep rock, the face of which was covered with fifty or sixty servants and porters. A large piece of rock, detached either by the melting of snow or the treading of a deer, suddenly came tumbling down. We could see the fragments into which it was immediately broken bounding along, and we all instinctively threw ourselves on our faces, excepting one unfortunate servant from the plains, who, losing his presence of mind, continued standing and gazing above. He was struck on the head, and precipitated over the rock about fifty feet, and died soon after. At the summit of the pass we found snow of great depth, and a quantity of oyster and cockle shells. Dr. Gerard, who accompanied Burnes to Bokhara, found shells in the Himalaya at the height of 19,000 feet. We descended by a road a few inches in width, which overhung precipices several hundred feet in depth. Habib had so reconciled us to this, that we seldom took the trouble of dismounting from our horses. The fact is, when one is much fatigued, one prefers the risk, if it does not last too long, to the labour of frequently mounting and dismounting.

At the twelfth mile we reached the village of Meeran in Toonekâbân, where we were put into very cold, comfortless quarters. The people, less accustomed to the visits of Europeans, did not give us the cordial reception one generally receives in Irak, but they supplied us with whatever we required that they possessed. At Meeran Lieut.-Colonel S—t tried the height of the thermometer in boiling water, and found it to be 201, which is said to mark 5560 feet.

29th May. We left Meeran, and proceeded down the ravine through

which flows the Meeran or Seh-hezar river, whose source is in the mountains we crossed yesterday. During to-day's march of fourteen miles, we crossed this stream twenty-five times. It is a torrent which rushes with extraordinary force and noise among the rocks with which its bed is filled. When it approaches the Caspian, it expands and becomes a fine salmon-stream. The bridges by which we crossed were formed of trees placed on buttresses and covered with boughs and earth, without any parapet, and not more than six feet in width. They vibrated unpleasantly under the weight of the horses; but we soon became reconciled to the bubbling and foaming of the stream, and rode on without any apprehension. An unlucky muleteer came to excite compassion with an account of the loss of two of his mules, which had tumbled over the bridge. At the fifth mile we entered the thickest jungle I ever beheld. It was formed of fine trees of oak, ash, elms, and various others, not recognised by us, interwoven with brushwood, which made it difficult to deviate from the path; and so closely were the branches of the larger trees intermingled, that they were impervious to the sun. This was a strong contrast to the scenery we had hitherto beheld in Persia, where, excepting fruit and a few plane trees in the neighbourhood of towns, not a tree is to be seen. All is bleak and barren. This change was delightful at first, till at length the unvarying scenery began to weary, and the eye became tired with a prospect which did not extend beyond a few yards.

After travelling nearly north about fourteen miles, which, from the badness and swampiness of the road, occupied us until long after dark, perceiving there was no prospect of reaching a village, we found it expedient to encounter the risk of a Mázenderán fever, by halting during the night under a large tree. We spread our thick carpets,—those invariable and invaluable accompaniments of a Persian journey, serving for bed, table, and chair,—on the ground, which was now quite wet from the heavy dews attracted by the thick forest. After lighting a large fire, to diminish the chilling dampness of the air, and partaking of the scanty repast which the vicinity of some herdsmen enabled us to procure, we lay down to sleep, without using or requiring the precaution of a watch for our baggage.

The distances we were able to travel in these hills seemed short, but the perpetual ascent and descent prevented anything like speed; and, besides these impediments, the road was in general so narrow that we were constantly obliged to undergo the labour of unloading the mules, and carrying over the baggage on porters. These forests abound in hogs, deer, bears, pheasants, leopards, and tigers, also, it is said.

On the 30th we proceeded in a northerly direction eleven miles to Khoorremâbâd, the principal village in Toonekaban. The road was of the same kind as that over which we yesterday travelled, excepting that the jungle was sometimes less dense, and opened occasionally into delightful glades. We then beheld the Caspian Sea, four miles distant, with a few boats sailing on it. Immediately afterwards we descended some low hills, and entered the narrow flat plain separating the Elboorz range from the Caspian. It is of varying breadth, from three or four to ten miles, and is, perhaps, the most insalubrious part of Persia, which is depicted in the jaundiced, sickly countenances of the inhabitants; so different from the other natives of Persia, who are remarkable for their

robust, healthy appearance. So hot, unhealthy, and intolerable from the swarms of insects does this plain become in summer and autumn, that the inhabitants, excepting a few of the poorest class who remain to watch and protect the tillage from the wild pigs, emigrate to the hills with their herds and flocks, where they have their summer residences or yêlaks. The road through this plain was most agreeable, part being through woods which at intervals opened into spaces admitting of a large quantity of cultivation. Apple and pear trees, and vines, were growing wild in the utmost profusion, and the latter climbed to the top of the tallest trees, which were almost hid from view by their luxuriant foliage. The absence of the plantain and cocoa-tree prevented us from fancying ourselves in Bengal, of which there was otherwise much to recall the recollection. The houses, instead of being clustered in villages, as in other parts of Persia, were dispersed irregularly through the jungle, and in place of the dusky, sunburnt brick of Irak, they were formed chiefly of wood, and thatched with straw. Unlike the other parts of Persia, where privacy is so eagerly sought, here the houses were almost entirely open, and the inmates exposed to view. Nothing very enticing was revealed, for assuredly the females of Mâzenderân are not the most attractive of their sex. It is strange that female beauty should be rare in Persia, where the men are in general handsome. I have been told by English ladies that, in the enormous and carefully-selected harem of the late King, only one really handsome woman was to be seen. Instead of sleeping on the ground, which is the invariable practice throughout other parts of Persia, here, as in Bengal, every house was supplied with a platform on which the inmates slept. The cultivation, too, consisted solely of rice, now perfectly green, and over-spread with water from the numerous streams which descended from the adjacent hills; the tillage was divided into fields by wicker fences, which gave the appearance of great care in the cultivation; and the liveliness of the scene was increased by the appearance of numerous labourers, male and female, who were wading to their knees in the miry soil, engaged in transplanting the young rice. This is the chief production of Mâzenderân; silk is obtained, but it is inferior at present to that of the neighbouring province of Geelan. Coarse sugar is also produced, which it is thought might be greatly improved by the application of superior skill. The splendid timber with which the forests teem is utterly valueless as an article of exportation, there being no mode of conveying it to the other quarters of Persia, and Russia having an ample supply of similar productions in her territories. Barley and wheat are rarely sown in this low, marshy land, which is found to be much more suitable for rice plantations.

After travelling three miles through delightful scenery, with the Caspian in front, and the mountains of Elboorz at the back, we arrived at the village, if the houses dispersed through the wood could be so called, of Koorremâbâd, distant one mile from the sea; and took up our residence in a large brick house covered with tiles. This was the dwelling of Moohammed Wellee Khan, the governor of the district, who was then absent; but we were courteously received by his nephew; whose politeness proved at length extremely disagreeable, as he, like all other Persians, considered it a point of good manners to remain constantly in the company of his guests. He invited us to go in the morn-

ing to view his salmon-weir, and talked so long and so late of his feats in hunting and shooting, that we were at length forced to beg him to depart.

In the morning he appeared with three or four attendants, all fully armed, as if they were proceeding on some service of peril. This practice is universal in Persia: if a person with any pretensions to be styled a "man of the sword" moves the shortest distance from home, he invariably carries his sword and pistols. The precaution was, perhaps, once requisite, and the habit has been preserved when the necessity has disappeared.

We proceeded a mile and a half through the woods to the banks of the Meeran, here called the Sch-hezar, to a spot within a few hundred yards of the Caspian. A weir formed of stakes and willows, with two small openings to admit the salmon into a sort of cage, was thrown across the river. It seemed strange that the salmon should discover these openings, yet the people assured us that in their efforts to ascend the river they appeared to search for every crevice. There seemed to be some truth in the assertion, for, though this was not the season, in a quarter of an hour we caught two salmon. This being insufficient for our party, a man took a net six feet wide, and, dragging it twenty or thirty yards, pulled out four good fish. This to us seemed excellent sport; but they assured us that in the season, October, they are caught in such quantities in every river along the coast that the whole country feed on salmon. Another mode of catching it is spearing: the sportsman enters a pool in the stream, and feels about for a salmon, and having done so (which apparently would be enough to scare it away, but does not), he waits for a glimpse, and then strikes at him. Salmon is not exported, excepting as presents to friends in Irak. Our host gave us a breakfast, which consisted solely of salmon and rice, no bread being procurable. This was an inconvenience which continued during our stay in this province; but the want of barley was a far more serious loss, for long before we left Mâzenderân our horses were worn to skin and bone, and were become so weak as to be scarcely able to ascend the hills. Salmon was now supplied in such abundance every day that at length we could not bear the sight or smell of it, and would not suffer it to appear at table—or rather the table-cloth, for table there was none. The day was spent in rambling about the shore and wood, which approaches to within a few yards of the sea. The water is salt, but not to such a degree as to prevent horses from drinking it.

Lieutenant-Colonel S—t boiled the thermometer near the Caspian, and found it to be 213, which would denote 500 feet below the ocean. It has been long suspected, and has, I believe, been lately proved, that this is the fact to the extent of 200 or 300 feet.

On the 1st of June we resumed our journey, and travelled east through jungles, swamps, rice-fields, and deep rivulets, with great difficulty. Without a guide it would have been impossible to have made any progress; and we felt satisfied that an enemy would have an arduous task to subdue this province if the people were resolute in resistance. Should Russia ever attempt this, it seems probable that she will experience greater difficulty than she has hitherto encountered in Persia. The people are bigoted, and dislike strangers; the greatest portion of the population is armed with match or firelocks, and they are excellent

marksmen. They know fully the advantages they possess in their jungles, and many of them spoke of the harassing irregular warfare which they considered to be suited to the nature of their country. If they could resist through one summer, the pestilential climate would prove a faithful and efficient ally to the Mázenderánees.

After labouring for four miles, we reached the sea, and travelled along the shore, sinking up to the fetlocks at every step. It was long after dark, and we began to despair of reaching a village, when we fortunately met a traveller, who guided us through the jungles to the village of Kelâribâd, in the district of Toonekâbân, twenty-four miles from our last stage.

We saw a Persian boat during to-day's march, which belonged to Enzêfee, a port near Resht, in Geelan. It was well-shaped, twenty feet in length, clinker-built, very narrow and sharp at stem and stern. The boat was lying in a creek, with a cargo of salt fish resembling haddock, called in Persian "white-fish," which the seamen told us sold readily. I do not know if the Caspian, like the Black Sea, contains 113 kinds of fish, but it is supplied with a profusion of sturgeon, salmon, the above haddock, and a fish resembling herring. The best caviare is said to be brought from the Caspian, and, though much esteemed by the Russians, who use it as a zest before dinner, to the generality of Englishmen the smell and taste of whale-oil render it unpalatable. The fisheries on the Persian coast of the Caspian are chiefly in the hands of Russians and Russian subjects, by whom they are rented from the Persian Government. This arises, in some degree, from the distaste of the Persians for maritime affairs; but so intelligent and prompt in acquiring a certain degree of knowledge are the inhabitants of this country, that it seems probable that very little instruction would be required to make them tolerably skilful sailors. Last year a small expedition was sent in boats against the Yoomoot tribe of Toorkemens, who had taken possession of an island belonging to Persia. A contest ensued between them and the Toorkemen boats, in which the Persians had a decided superiority. The Shah was delighted at his naval victory, and called the commander the Persian Nelson. Nelson is one of his Majesty's favourite heroes, and his admiration for him and the Duke of Wellington is unbounded. His knowledge of the former is derived from a translation of his life, which has been made into Persian by Colonel S—t. The proficiency of the Persians in naval affairs is not likely to reach a great height, for at the conclusion of the last war the Russian Government took the precaution of limiting to itself the right of navigating ships-of-war in the Caspian—consequently, no Persian ship-of-war can sail on the sea, where, eighty years ago, the Russian flag was hauled down at the appearance of the hund-surmounted banner. It is scarcely necessary to say that I mean the standard of Persia, at the top of which is an open hand, of which the fingers imply Moohemmed, Fâtima, Ali, Hassan, Hoosein.

On the 2nd we left Kelâribâd, and retraced our way to the sea, close to the shores of which we continued our journey, with a dense jungle on the right hand, in which a village was occasionally visible. One of the obstructions an enemy would encounter here would be the difficulty of finding the habitations of the people, these being generally concealed in the depths of the forest. At the twelfth mile we turned south into

the jungle, and reached the village of Ahabad, in the district of Kelâristâkh, at about the fourteenth mile, and were hospitably received, though not in person, by an old lady, the mother of a gentleman, who was the friend of one of our party at Tehrân.

The chief of the village described the revenue of Mâzenderân to be a fixed tax, which had been established in the reign of Nâdir Shah, since which time it has not been altered. Each district is rated at a certain sum, but the right of apportioning what amount is to be paid by each individual is relinquished to the chiefs and elders of the district, by whom a settlement is made with reference to the means and wealth of the parties. It might be supposed that the poor would be sufferers by this arrangement, yet some of the peasantry informed me that they were disinclined to any change, and that in general a fair distribution was made of the taxes to be raised. The chief grievance of which the peasants complained was the vicinity of two Elyât,* or tent-dwelling tribes, called Abdool Melekee and Khojawend, which dwell in Kelâristâkh and the adjacent district of Noor. These tribes, of about 1000 tents each, are notorious for their wild unruly habits, and are gradually making encroachments on the lands of the more pacific inhabitants of houses. When we inquired why the latter, who are more numerous, did not combine and resist the tribe-men, we were answered that there was no union among them, which was precisely the reverse among their rivals. According to their account, when a house-dweller was oppressed or beaten, all his companions stood aloof, lest they should be made participators of his misfortunes, while if an eel or tribe-man received an injury, the tribe never rested until it had retaliated. The Shah had an intention of transporting one of these tribes to the banks of the Goorgan, where the Gooklân Toorkemens dwell, and to form them into a barrier against the depredations of the Toorkemens in general. This plan was adopted by Shah Abbas the Great, who transported several Koordish tribes to near the same spot, where they still continue, but without conferring much of the advantage anticipated, being grievously suspected of conniving often at the plundering excursions of the Toorkemens into Persia. We perceived a great difference in the aspect and demeanour of the eels and peasants. The former had a bold, manly, almost a fierce, air of independence, while the latter were chiefly remarkable for their sickly, unenergetic; sullen appearance. The Mâzenderânees are in no great repute among the other inhabitants of Persia, by whom they are contemned as uncouth barbarians—Mâzenderânee e-kher, an ass of a Mâzenderânee, being a common phrase for describing them, yet Mâzenderân is the scene of the renown of the hero Roostem and of his victorious combats with the Deeve Sefeed, the white demon, and at the present day the Mâzenderânees are among the best irregular musketeers and matchlock-men of Persia. It is strange enough that, at this moment, whatever knowledge Persia possesses of disciplined warfare is derived from England, and that 200 years ago the same circumstance existed. In the reign of Shah Abbas, the English knight, Sir Anthony Shirley, instructed a body of musketeers, who rendered excellent service in the wars with the Turks. They were formed from a district called

* Eel, or Elyât, is a Turkish word implying a tribe, particularly a tribe that dwells in tents.

Hezar Jereeb, in, or bordering on, Mázenderân, the irregular match-lock-men of which place still maintain their superiority.

On the 3rd of June we travelled south, through the jungle, up the banks of the Châlis river, which resembled, both in size and appearance, the stream of Meeran, and like it was full of salmon. At the eighteenth mile the jungle began to become thinner. The depth of the forest is about forty miles, and it was impossible not to regret that these magnificent trees should be almost useless, the only purpose to which they are applied being the construction of houses in Mázenderân and of charcoal, which is conveyed to Irak. At the twenty-fourth mile we reached the village of Merzenabad, which is the principal one in Kelâristâkh. We were most hospitably received by a gentleman, named Moohemmed Khan, whose father was formerly governor of this district. He informed us that there was a blood-feud between him and the family at Khoorremabad, one of whom had been killed by his father in an affray, and the relations of the deceased had retaliated by decoying the latter to a meeting, where they murdered him. This had happened two years ago, and our host was anxiously waiting for an opportunity of murdering some other person belonging to the same family, though he expressed strong fears that he would be prevented by the interference of friends of both parties, who wished to stop the feud by a double marriage. He, too, complained of the Abdoolmelekees and Khojawends, and anxiously anticipated the departure of one of these tribes, which would enable the people to control the other. Our host was a great sportsman, and pressed us to renew our visit in October, promising that we should kill more salmon than we could carry, and as many pheasants as we chose to undergo the labour of beating for.

On the 5th we proceeded in the direction of nearly south, that is of Irak. Our road was a continual ascent, through charming scenery; the Châlis bubbled on one hand, the woods became more open, the hills were in many places covered with cultivation, and many villages were visible. Barley and wheat now took the place of the rice-plant. At the seventh mile, finding that no village was to be found nearer than twenty miles, and that a very bad pass was to be ascended next day, we halted in the jungle by the side of the stream, and prepared there to pass the night. We found our camp more agreeable than on the former occasion, both the air and the ground being drier and the wood more open.

Next day we marched through the ravine of the Châlis river, and at the fourth mile arrived at the foot of the pass Hezarchem, or thousand twists. The Mázenderânees declare that they are opposed to the improvement of their roads, for that would give facilities for their subjugation by a foreign enemy, and for oppression. This latter tendency, at all events, does not form any part of the character of the present Shah, who is conspicuous for the mildness of his sway, and has no wish to obtain from the people any revenue beyond his rights. The pass commenced by an ascent up an almost perpendicular rock, apparently 700 feet in height. The turns were so well contrived, that there was a perfect freedom from danger, but the fatigue was prodigious, for the pass extended many miles. After surmounting this labour we proceeded round the sides of the mountain, the road being in many places formed of planks, which were inserted at right angles into the perpendicular rock. In one part it was so nar-

row that the trunks on a mule struck the rock, and mule and trunks were precipitated over. The perpendicular fall seemed about twenty feet, after which there was a descent, abundantly steep, of 150 or 200 feet. We felt perfectly satisfied that mule and trunks were knocked to pieces, and were not a little astonished to see both brought up wonderfully slightly injured by their roll. After fourteen hours' hard work we arrived at the village of Enen, which we estimated to be not more than sixteen miles from our encamping-ground in the jungle. During our ascent of the Hezarchem we were joined, while resting from the great exertions we were obliged to make, by four Eelyats of the Khojawend tribe. They accosted us in the loud rude tone which is not uncommon among the wilder portions of the people of this class, and, being answered in nearly the same manner, they became much irritated. One of the Eelyats raised his stick as if with the intention of making a blow, but it was speedily wrested from him by S——t, who was a very powerful man, though in the short struggle which took place we were much alarmed by the danger they both ran of falling over the precipice. The Eelyats immediately afterwards scampered away.

On the 7th we proceeded fourteen miles, to the village of Melikfâris, in the district of Lâr. At the fifth mile we commenced ascending the fatiguing pass of Kendewân. We had now bid adieu to Mâzenderân, and entered the province of Irak; the forests had vanished, and nothing met the eye but the naked sterility which characterizes Irak the barbarous, as the Arabs call it, to distinguish it from their own province—*Irak of the Arabs*. We ascended Kendewân to the banks of the Keraj river, which we had crossed at the second march from Tehrân, and which here has its source.

On the 9th we marched seventeen miles, to the village of Ehâr, having passed through a long valley called Shahristânek, or little city, from the crowd of villages it contains. We were now separated from Tehrân only by the first range of Elboorz, which lay close on our right: a few hours would have brought us, by a path over these hills, to Tehrân, had not we received intelligence that the quantity of snow would render the passage inconvenient. Our horses were now worn out from bad food, fatigue, and lameness, which made it desirable that we should get back to our quarters without delay. This we did the next day. We travelled a short distance over the same description of hilly country, which was, however, rendered more lively by a much greater number of villages than we had hitherto seen: We then ascended with much trouble the last range of Elboorz, and, having got to the top, we saw Tehrân, twelve miles to the S.S.W. The tents of the English party at the capital were visible eight miles from us at the village of Goolchek, where they had encamped to avoid the heat and pestilential atmosphere of Tehrân.

PETITION OF LAUNCELOT SUBCUT, M.D., ASSISTANT SURGEON.

London, June, 1838.

MR. EDITOR,—As you have generously lent the aid of your influential periodical in behalf of the Medical Staff of the Army, if you would publish the following copy of a humble memorial from an officer stationed at Madras, its “prayer” would, most probably, meet a favourable reception.

PHILO-ESCULAPIUS.

To the Heads of the Medical Board; the Petition of Launcelot Subcut, a King's Assistant-Surgeon,

Respectfully shows,

Your petitioner's aid

Must be given at hospital, barracks, parade;
That, whether the weather be frigid or hot,
Or so rainy the native won't stir from his cot,
Your petitioner instant must fly at the call
Of officer, soldier, wife, bantling, and all;
Nay more, oftentimes, after hours of fatigue,
When cholera, fever, and death are in league,
In a moment of slumber, *long sought*, but unsound,
Amid insects and heat that environ him round,
He is roused by the voice of his black-visaged elf
To prescribe for a *patient* less *sick* than himself.
Poor devil! his comforts are wretched and few,
And such as they are he must lessen them too;
Must, out of his slender allowance *per mensem*,
Pay horse, keeper, hack, and a stable to fence him;
Or, if he will trudge it *sans* remedy, *sans* horse,
He must die and be damn'd as a matter of course;
For liver and legs, though they stand for a time,
Knock under *ere long* to this villainous clime.

Your petitioner's not unaware, it is true,
That the hardships *he* knows, *your* Wisdoms *once* knew;
But then *you* could manage to get into debt,
(Alas! he has tried, but could ne'er do it yet:)
And the contract (King's doctor! no longer 'tis thine)
Kept you floating, by Jove, like a bark on the brine,
'Till you “weather'd the storm” with a Staff situation,
Or some other lucrative “consideration.”
For the Company's servants get many good things
That cannot be got by us “dogs of the King's.”
But of that *entre nous*, rank, knowledge, and worth!
Give influence with those who have “power” and so forth;
Were your Wisdoms in kind condescension to lay
A state of the case in the “Governor's” way,
Your petitioner doubt's not his humble desire
Of a trifling allowance for “palanquin” hire
Would be granted at once, on the recommendation
Of those who possess knowledge, talent, and station.

“May it therefore” (to use the set form of petitions)
“Please your Wisdoms,” as surgeons and senior physicians,
To advise an allowance, small thing will suffice,
For the keep of a few tawny rascals in rice!
That in future your slave may wash down his dry ration
With a wine *something* stronger than Adam's potation:
And for service so good, in his comical way,
Your Wisdoms' petitioner “ever will pray.”

(Signed)

LAUNCELOT SUBCUT, M.D.
H.M. Regiment of Foot.

DIARY OF A RUN TO THE NORTH COAST OF FRANCE.*

The hills are so steep, before and to the westward of *St. Brieux*, that we were frequently obliged to get out, not only to walk up, but to walk *down* besides. In an agricultural sense this part of Brittany is very rich, and the condition of the farmers very comfortable, in their sense—that is, good clothes, and plenty to eat. At the grand hotel of the town and feeding-house royal, I made my way into the *bureau* as quickly as possible, to secure a place on to Brest by the Rhennes diligence, if possible; taking my hat off very politely to a very business-like and very grave young lady, the daughter of the house, who was officiating at the desk. She nodded assent to my supplications for a seat on, with a sober air of consequence such as a First Lieutenant or Captain gives to a Midshipman asking for twenty-four hours' leave of absence to make a fool of himself ashore. I profoundly bowed myself backwards into the *salle à-manger*, where two abigails were clearing away *le beau reste* of the table, where some forty or fifty had just dined.

Putting on the most winning smile a hungry man can muster, I ventured to ask if it were possible to oblige my animal propensity in the knife and fork way? They were very busy, very; so I put the question, in a less general form, to the girl next me, insidiously adding, "*Voyez donc, ma chère amie, je meurs de faim.*" To which she replied, very drily, "*Demandez au chef. Je n'en sais rien, moi.*" Hoity toity! French girls are very odd and *brusque*. Now, from Dover to John o' Groats, no maid-servant at an inn would have so answered: there was not even a *Monsieur* put in. All Frenchwomen are very exact, whatever their condition, in adding *Monsieur* to every sentence, when answering a stranger; but I conclude these abigails were so pestered with their animals at feeding-time, that all their better sympathies were long since worn out. I was goose enough to be vexed at their uncivil indifference, and bounced into the kitchen, where I saw the said *chef*, the lord of the ascendant; but with such a stoical face, and such a thorough emptiness of his *casseroles*, that I once more turned on my heel in despair. Two hours were before me, so I reconnoitred the chief street, though nothing in the shape of an inn or restaurant, was in sight. I applied at several *marchands*—nobody knew where I was likely to get anything to eat! In the mean time another difficulty arose. I had no change. I tried the question at two shops, and at the very coach-office where we got down. In vain I recommended my sovereign to them: they shook their heads, poor innocents! Some thought it might be worth a Napoleon, but then the coin was strange, the risk of changing it into five-franc pieces not tempting. I was in a peck of troubles. At last an old woman obligingly showed me the way to the heart of the town, where lived a *ci-devant* merchant, who very civilly changed a couple of pounds sterling for me in his own private parlour. What it is to travel beyond the influences of a sovereign! Catch me again at a French country-town without francs and sous. I made the old woman's heart glad with ten sous, and, after listening to the band of the 2nd Regiment, who were practising in

(Concluded.)

a large room *au premier* for next day, and observing two English young ladies escorted by a French officer among the listeners, I set to work in good earnest to restore nature. My propitious stars guided me once more along the main street (passing my inhospitable hotel) to a little obscure *auberge*, the *Red Cross*. There was a settle in the kitchen, in our country public-house fashion. A most glorious stew regaled my nostrils as I entered. The landlady was very civil, and very expeditious. I have not eaten so satisfactory a dinner since I left London, although but off a single dish; so I went back to the *Grand Hôtel* and *bureau* with all the placid indulgence of a philosopher for the uncivil indifference of the landlord and his ladies. One must never decide hastily. The daughter, Miss Graveais, was kind enough to say she was very sorry for the *mistake*. As she was a very fine girl, and in the midst of most complex check and counter-check on the way-bill with *Monsieur le Conducteur*, I got into the coach in a very forgiving mood; but let nobody arrive at any *Grand Hôtel* after the regular dinner-hour. All these mishaps came of my riding a steeple-chase across the country, in a rattle-trap opposition *service*. And now, *Nox atra cavâ circumvolat umbra*.

We were not long on the road before we were all unloaded to walk down a tremendous steep and long hill, then re-packed for the tedious night. It makes a monstrous difference in long journeys, whether people can sleep in a corner, or wedged between two, in spite of jolting, &c. I never could, not even dose, so as to lose some of the long-drawn length of way of a long night.

20th. "Time and the hour." We drove down the steep hills into Morlaix at seven o'clock; the place already full of peasants, and thousands pouring in along the roads to the annual fair held here, a mixture of fair and *fête*. These simple Bretons put one in mind of Spaniards, or of the middle ages. Indeed, all is here unchanged among these children of the soil. They are exactly the same they must have been under Henry IV., perhaps long before. Their dress is very striking, all black—necks bare, long hair over their shoulders, long waistcoats over the hips, short, wide-sleeved, square-skirted coats, worked long button-holes very thick set, and immensely broad-brimmed, low-crowned felt hats, with a gay *cordón* of many colours round them, and a fine tassel. Some of the men we passed were fine-grown fellows, some of the women very comely. They have a Spanish cast of face, long and grave. This is the country that did not, never could, understand or enter into the French Revolution, first or second. They are simple, ignorant, and superstitious, content with their King and their *Seigneurs*. Loyal to a proverb, no wonder they were led on by the Jacquelins and Georges to destruction and death so often, seldom even to a partial victory. Poor things! Happily those disturbed and cruel times are but matters of hearsay to the youth of the present day. They seldom see a paper—few can read one—so that politics, or what's going on in the world beyond their own fields, or the chief towns in the department, is to them as indifferent as the affairs of the New Zealanders.

The chief inhabitants of the towns, indeed, are to themselves a sort of strangers, not speaking the same language, nor dressed like them, with no identity of feeling in any way. While the coach changed horses, I observed them looking at things with the most naïve curiosity,

particularly at us travellers. Many of the young men and women had perhaps come twenty or thirty miles, and never seen a town or a shop before. I thought their primitive rusticity quite charming. Such a picture is not to be seen in England, nor Scotland, since the dress is done away with; nor in Ireland, not even, I fear, in the wilds of Connemara. No, there is no distinction but rags left among us. In this France, and Germany, and Italy, have the advantage. We must not think costume is nothing. With moral feeling, with beauty, with the charm of variety over the face of the earth, with a desirable simplicity to the uninformed, with the love of country, it has everything to do. How silly, how culpable are the overwise, who want to rob us of the charms of prejudice and the imagination! The Turks are sunk to nothing since their change of dress. What do the twos and threes look like we meet in town? Morally and physically, it has made them contemptible; I cannot fancy them Turks. Thus the butcher Mahmoud, like a wilful child, has cut, slashed, and destroyed, but creates nothing; besides, he began at the wrong end.

Morlaix has always been an active port, building many ships. The river or inlet comes up to the centre of the town, where it suddenly stops between high hills on both sides. But few vessels lie at the wharfs. They are building a new Town Hall close to the arch that gives passage to the small stream running through the centre of the place. I expected to have seen a town of more consequence, and better shops; but it was a dull rainy morning, and all was seen to disadvantage. After we wound up the opposite hill clear of the suburbs, we still met the peasantry on foot and on horseback strung along the road by hundreds, coming on to the fair; many of the women on pillions behind the cavaliers, some riding alone, their Dobbins cutting all sorts of capers, frightened at the strange sight of our lumbering diligence.

The country carries the same rich features to *Landerneau*, the commercial port of Brest, where there is little or nothing of trade stirring. This town stands on an inlet of the great harbour on a small river,—a dirty, hugger-mugger place, with the main street full of busy travellers for commercial houses, the inns full in the same way. The five leagues on to Brest is over a poorer and more monotonous track; but this same town must be repassed whatever direction one may want to take, south or north; the ferry of nine miles south across the bay, and the direct road to Quimper, being very rarely used, so that the longest way round, back this same road, is the nearest, it may be called the only way. A few brigs and sloops are lying on the mud, but trade is at best but trifling. The only things one sees any bustle in throughout France are cotton and wine. All the rest are invisible details, answering the strict necessities, always excepting whatever Government undertakes, which is sure to be vigorously and ably carried on.

Brest is a small compact handsome town, lying on the slope of a gentle declivity to the bay or harbour, and strongly fortified on all sides. A small tide-river, the Penfeld, runs at the foot of it through abrupt rocks, cutting off a suburb called *Recouvrance*, which is likewise fortified; the sea-face everywhere bristling with cannon. Nothing is seen to seaward beyond the vast circumference of the harbour, which is from six to eight miles across: the men of war lie within a mile of the town. At this moment there is a frigate and half-a-dozen brigs,

besides the Naval School, 74, and a couple of ship sloops. The river (which is the dockyard, the whole extent of the town and works) is full of ships in all possible conditions—moored, in dock, and on slips. It would require a volume to describe the whole, as a naval port alone. I can but glance at any part of it.

Captain Le Marche very obligingly gave me an order (in the Préfet's office) to see the whole of the dockyard—which I was obliged to have signed by a French Vice-Consul of England! One is bewildered in such a mass of *matériel* and action—all arranged, however, with the most exact method and order. What strikes one most, I think, in all French Government concerns, is the great solidity of everything morally and physically. Things are planned in the wisest way, and carried out to last for centuries. Their ship-building is well known to us as inimitable. They have a good quantity of coal in the yard, which, by its shining fracture, I should say was rather Newcastle than from Mons.

19th.—Walking about the town, and on the beautiful walk on the harbour face of the ramparts (the *Cours*), planted with double avenues of fine lime-trees. They are taking down an orchestra in the centre of the *Place de Bataille*, or great square, where, on *fêtes*, they dance, it seems. Round this square, which lies on the higher part of the town (up to which, in the principal cross street, the *Rue de la Rampe*, a long flight of steps lead from the *Rue Royale*), are placed all the cafés, the theatre, and some of the best streets and houses. I pitched on the *Café Parisien*, apparently the most frequented by naval officers and the officers of the garrison. Here they were all enveloped in a cloud of smoke (chiefly from pipes), and playing dominos. Their intimates, as elsewhere, appeared a shabby-looking set of the *Bourgeoisie*, ill-dressed, dirty, and with manners and expressions on a par with horse-dealers. One seldom ever sees anything better in a French country-town café—not a man ever looks like a gentleman, nor is there even the least attempt, as I often fancy it would be with us, on seeing an evident stranger come in, to be civil, or open a conversation. One is stared at, *voilà tout*. Perhaps in this I should not say stare; for the French habitually look people steadily in the face, more than we think quite civil, while silent and unknown.

I think the French uniform has the advantage of ours in the embroidered anchor on the coat-tail, and the absence of our most tawdry livery sort of gold-lace, plastered on and about, without meaning. The strap on one shoulder of their Lieutenants, too, does not look ill in their eyes, since it has always denoted an elevated rank. With us it looks most paltry, since every ensign in the army with us, and even down to militia and volunteers, &c., all put on two full epaulettes. This comes of not understanding imitations! The current of certain associations of the mind in nations should never be violated, even in trifles. So was it absurd, still more absurd, while our naval Lieutenants had better have done without any epaulette at all—to give the same sort of lopsided distinction to Masters, Purser, and Surgeons! Verily our distinctions fall into wise hands, both of the outward and inward man. I know of no people on the face of the earth where they are so at variance with common sense, with common justice, or, as Philosopher Square says, with the "eternal fitness of things;" and yet, as if from a spirit of comparison and inquiry, and to march with the age, we are always

changing and altering; but ours are the changes of children in their playthings—whim and caprice directs.

There are no longer *Capitaines de Frégate* in France; they are now all under two classes of *Lieutenants de Vaisseau*. Their Midshipmen are *Elèves* of the first and second classes, with a very handsome uniform: the first, a gold *aiguillette*; the second, *bigarrée*, or alternate blue and gold. Nothing can be at once more simple and elegant. I sat near one of these lads at our *table d'hôte*, at the *Grand Monarque* (where I was installed), the veriest cub I ever spoke to. I tried to talk to him, after his own fashion too, of the sea, his ship (the *Dido*, 60, in the roads), the theatre. No; it wouldn't do; his answers were all "oui," "non," "*je n'en sais rien*!" The Post-Captain of the Admiral's office dined at the same table, as he often does, and the Captain of a corvette, &c.

Going to the theatre afterwards, I saw my *Jeune France* Mid (a handsome smart lad) again; but, not being anxious for any more of his monosyllables, I took no more notice of him. There were a good many of them at the play, besides a fair share of Captains and Lieutenants: the house respectably filled, but only six women present, except a few servant-girls in the upper tier. At country theatres the military occupy all the best places, as subscribers of course, and at two-thirds the usual admittance. So are they constant in their attendance, and always the hardest part of the audience to please. After the ordeal of a garrison-town audience of this stern aspect an actor may defy even the Parisian boards—it is a purgatorial ordeal. Woe to the unhappy wight who forgets the *cue* or any part of his part! Neither a Liston nor a (Glorious John) Reeve would have been abated a hair. This severity in France is carried too far—it is often tyrannical—often crushes a trembling *débütante*. They played and sang the "*Dame Blanche*" very well—the naval part of the *Messieurs*, young and old, behaving with due decorum—very unlike our Plymouth or Portsmouth heroes of the Sound or Spit. But there the advantage ceases—ours do not smoke pipes nor keep company with the lower classes in the town as they do here.

I was anxious to see *La Didon*, a first-rate frigate, put in here to take an Admiral to La Martinique (West Indies),—so I took a boat from the only office (near the sheers at the castle) where such a thing is to be had, regularly booked and paid for (three francs), for one hour (to row a mile)—a clumsy affair, with two men. We got alongside at an awkward moment, just as the Admiral was coming off, for whom they had prepared, piped the side, as with us, &c., with the ships' company and officers drawn up round the decks, in their stations as at divisions. I followed—"with none so low to do me reverence," for which I thanked my good stars at getting on board at all, and at their being too busy to notice me. So, taking off my hat to the two Captains on deck, Lieutenants, Mids, and various officers standing in a group, I made up to one who sat next me, I recollected, at the *Grand Monarque* (a *Lieutenant de Vaisseau*), hoping, with my most insinuating address, I might be allowed to remain on board a moment. "*Mais, Monsieur,*" said he, "*nous sommes très occupés pour le moment,*" and round he turned. My first resolve was to get back over the side again; but I had got so near the midships of her magnificent quarter-deck, that I

thought I might as well swallow the "*mais*," and stow myself away behind some of the men standing in front of the carronades.

Having retreated without further notice, I found myself close to the poop ladder. She has a small poop, not seen above the bulwark, that seems to take nothing from the quarter-deck, so large is she: so I jumped up among the band, which was playing. Thinks I, I'll try and soften some of the Dons here, taking my hat off once more to the Lieutenant, with a second respectful official touching of it to the signal Mid, apparently; but these worthies were no way moved—wondering, no doubt, "who the Devil's this?" One should never do anything suddenly—head over heels! I had evidently reckoned too far on French suavity—"politesse"—there was not a stray rope-yarn of it on deck; for I flattered myself I looked like a well-dressed gentleman, and, I was sure, more like an English one than anything else: my consolation should have been the being on board at all! And yet I think—nay, I'm sure, on board any frigate of ours, they'd have let in any Frenchman; and, if let in, would have paid him some attention, the moment the Admiral, Captain, &c., had gone their rounds. For my part, I can only boast of the civility of the signal-man, and the leader of the band, whom I chatted with while on the poop, before the men were dismissed, by roll of drum. Meantime I admired this fine vessel from stem to stern, and all the improvements and contrivances about her. She has a round stern, with figure ornaments supporting a handsome stern-gallery, which gives a grace to this rather ugly shape. There was no great deal new (not entirely new). I thought the iron spurs, for keeping the main-brace blocks well out on the quarters, good. The kedge-anchor in the after-part of mizen-chains, too—they are in one with the main-chains.

Her booms were beautifully clear, with only two or three spare spars each side—taking very little light and air from the waist, and all clear of the gangways, amidships grated over, a walk. A civil lad (a sidesman) came round the main-deck with me. Everything particularly clear at the quarters—the guns all fitted with percussion locks. They cut a caper, too, with polished brass tompions. Everything very neat and clean—the men all well dressed in blue jackets and trousers, and tarpaulins. I might have fancied myself on board our own ships after muster, exactly.

The sick-bay very commodious; the galley compact, with swinging tables for the Admirals, the Captains, and officers' cooks; the Admiral's *chef*, or cordon blue, was busy the larboard side at his; I touched my hat to his white night-cap-ship with all that reverence I have for these spoilers of good things—but I was in his domain! Below, it struck me the sort of battened cribs built on the deck all round were handy for the men, each having his own cell marked off for his kit and their mess-things; all the rest a clean sweep—not a table, a chest, nor a bag—not a thing; the 'twixt-decks is only used to sleep and dress in, except, perhaps, in very bad weather. They had the usual oven on board, built up, and lumbering enough—a most unwieldy, awkward thing, the only one to be wished removed; but French sailors must still have their *soft tommy* at sea. I conclude it will be left off by degrees—their strong liking still puts up with the great inconvenience; not that they are not aware of it.

This frigate carries two 80-pounders on the starboard side, and one on the larboard, abreast the mainmast; they were strengthening the side and deck for the second at the moment, or something of the kind.

Her fine spars were remarkable for their clearness from all unnecessary gear; tops very square; the fore-brim closing short in round the tressel-trees, out of the way of the topsails, giving the balance well aft for the support of the mast—all was good: the boats of grand proportions (such a frigate's yawl—32 feet by 10!), not such little senseless things as we have been making ours; and, lastly, she was properly manned—not in the half-and-half way we are fond of, whereby our frigates' complements should go to a good-sized sloop-of-war. I should have liked to make a closer inspection; but I had begun at the wrong end evidently, and there was no spontaneous kindness or sympathetic feeling in any one officer. How this surliness happened I know not, for to the last I smiled, and behaved with the manner of a man who would be thankful for the smallest civility, though I was vexed and out of humour with their bearishness.

I gave my sidesman a franc for walking round with me, and left the unpropitious Dido. Thinks I—"Let me catch any of you fellows aboard my ship at Plymouth, when you're a stranger wandering, that's all!" But, good Lord! who ever heard of such a thing as a travelling or curious French naval officer? No, no,—I shall never be able to say one civil word to any of them, or ask them down to take a glass of wine—unless one takes them by force! then, indeed!

"Well, Messieurs, your ships are grand—are beautiful," muttered I, as we pulled round her bows—"lovely! but for yourselves, I have nothing to say—not a word."

The men and officers were a good-looking set of fellows; the discipline apparently strict, and nothing of the chattering, noisy confusion of olden times. *Nous avons changé tout cela*. If France had only Brest, she might have a great navy—so complete and so vast is the harbour—on such a magnificent scale is the dockyard. They say, however, that the town is unhealthy, and the presence of the *forçats* is a pest. The priest Valonge was pointed out to me—he who cut up his maid-servant not long ago. They are improving the town: the quarter opposite my hotel—a kind of St. Giles's, in which they robbed and assassinated nightly, they have pulled down *in toto*, to be rebuilt; it was the only way, it appears, they could dislodge its nest of thieves. There are a great many noble buildings, barracks, store-houses, hospitals, and others connected with Government, and the town has some handsome streets, a good market, and in a plentiful country. They are behindhand in their shops—not to be compared with Portsmouth or Plymouth, except the naval ones, which are pretty well.

20th.—Not sorry to get away from this, but very sorry to have to go such a round by Landernau. A boat may be had to cross the harbour (three leagues) at great expense; but when you do get to a village on the other side the chances are there is no coach on.

Starting late in the day, and going back five leagues, and round this enormous harbour, before we got our heads fairly to the south. Got out to stretch my legs at Quimper, on its little river quay: a romantic hilly sort of country, the hills looming over the town by moonlight; while Madame (always women)—now two o'clock in the morning—

makes up the conductor's way-bill, with all the business-like gravity of a Secretary of State. I watched her various calculations for some time—division, multiplication, and subtraction—intricacies excessive. The French are a very methodical people: how they keep the books square in such complexity, such various sums handed over for his great leather pouch or bag, besides all the sealed bags of francs, to and from, puzzles me: the missing any one would ruin the poor woman, and yet there's all the coolness imaginable, as if of only so many letters or farthings. By daylight we trotted through Quimperle, a small, pretty place, with mills, and a lively stream dancing through: running clear water is always cheerful. English are to be found at all these places—often people of good society. What are they doing here? What a question! Some to shoot and fish; some to keep clear of. John Doe and Richard Roe!

21st.—Drove into L'Orient time enough for an excellent breakfast, at the best hotel, in every way, I have yet met with: good rooms, and good table—the latter so good, in really good dishes, that I am half tempted to withdraw my anathema against French cooking; but I shall get off by protesting that this is not French—it's some mistake: besides, this Hôtel de France on the Place is altogether very superior—the landlord and landlady obliging and civil on all occasions—none of that petty overreaching, so prevalent; and we have a superior set at table—men who look like gentlemen, and with the red ribbon: they keep the *commis* in order, for it is impossible to get rid of them, go where one will.

I have had a good look at Quiberon and Belleisle, in sight to the W.S.W., from the column of the dockyard, in company with a very nice young fellow staying at the hotel. This neighbourhood is flatter as one gets to the bottom of Biscay's Bay, a mixture of mud and rocks form its shores. This is a great port for ship-building: they have many men-of-war all but ready for launching—plenty of timber in store. The town is unlike French towns, generally: the houses low and neat—the streets a fair width, and laid out regularly; but it is, outside the dockyard, a poor little town. The shops, or its trade, nothing: once it was a place of great trade, even to India. The column or tower, built by the merchants to look out for their Argosies—now there's hardly one to look out for. It is fortified and garrisoned, as they all are. The few idlers seen about are the officers on the Place, and now and then a naval one in undress uniform.

There is, however, a very good theatre, where, twice a-week, they muster a very respectable audience; and two or three *cafés* have the usual number of smoking billiard and domino-players. Coming home from the theatre, we were attracted by a compound of hideous noises in one of the streets. It was a *charivari* given to an old maid who had dared to marry a widower! The happy couple took it, very quietly. This is the case in France: certain marriages don't please the mob—a *charivari*; or an obnoxious person in country-towns, a deputy or *préfet*, is *charivari'd* without ceremony, and sometimes so often that the victims are fain to leave the town. Some scream, some groan, others play discordantly on all sorts of instruments, beat shovels—(marrow-bones and cleavers)—others shout, &c. The din was dreadful: we left the crowd going on, not at all tired.

The *Place* in a French town is always the scene for fairs, shows, &c., besides being the parade-ground. Here is a poor man showing a sturdy wolf, which he has got chained by a double chain—a most ugly ferocious brute, that some three years ago bit his hand nearly clean off as he was going about his business along the road (near the Rhone somewhere, I think) with his cart loaded with crockery. The remarkable part of this novel sort of show, however, is, that the poor fellow shows, likewise (holding it in his left), the skeleton of his right hand! The force of philosophy can, I think, “no further go.” What man but a Frenchman would think of turning a sad misfortune to account in this way? I had no idea wolves were really so dangerous, or their bite so much more to be dreaded than a dog’s. To look at this brute, which struggles and snaps as if only just caught, it is evident how much larger and stronger the jaws and teeth are than those of the largest dog; though, taken altogether, it is no bigger than a large mastiff—not so large as many of our Newfoundland breed; but the jaw is peculiar, and the strength too. The man says he got him down (after the hand was off), and that he was only saved by some people coming to his rescue. To make out the entrance of two sous (people giving him anything more they please), he sells a little *précis de son histoire* at two sous more. To all appearance and probability the thing is just what it is said to be. The only little bit of excusable gammon in it is the continued ferocity of the wolf, which is not likely, after three years’ showing; and which the brute is taught, like monkeys, to act.

The next booth was the very serious drama, by puppets, of the Death of Abel, spoken behind the scenes—the most solemnly-ludicrous thing I have laughed at for many a day, particularly the kill-’em-and-eat-’em look of Cain, as he hopped about, and all the reasonings and *pros* and *cons* about the matter, which surely none but a Frenchman again could ever in sober earnestness have concocted; the peasantry and poor people, in breathless silence and intense interest, listening with untiring gravity and patience. If I laughed, it was in my sleeve—it would have been very indecorous otherwise.

They are building a noble barrack at the back of our hotel, on a gigantic scale, as all French public works are. This is the only thing I see building. The town is even less populous than it has been, so that there is room enough and to spare; and, were it not for the garrison and the dockyard, one can easily imagine, deprived of its commerce, in this desolate nook of the Bay of Biscay, it would dwindle still more. Very few English live here—I did not, in several days, see a single individual—still it is said there are a few, either in the place or the environs. The country round is very pretty, without being so bold in its features as farther north and south.

FURTHER NOTICES OF THE PORT OF BREST.

BY AN OXONIAN.

MR. EDITOR,—I had endeavoured to reduce to some profitable shape the materials of an account of Brest, collected during a brief stay there, while on a cruise in August, 1837, when I read the article on the same subject in your March number. That article is so copious and accurate as to leave little to be desired, and I do not regret that my recollections of the place remain in their own obscurity, especially when, on comparing them, I find the article in your excellent Journal to be in many respects more accurate and minute.* Still, I think that some additions to what has already appeared, as well as remarks on the opinions expressed by the writer in the able article just mentioned, may interest some of your naval readers. I will only beseech their indulgence to any inaccuracies in what I shall say, by pleading the fact, that I have studied sea-matters as an amusement, not as a profession.

The "Four" passage can hardly be said to "lead in from the Atlantic;" it is only useful to vessels coming from some port in the Channel; it may be said to join L'Iroise, which narrows eastward into the "Goulet de Brest," a narrow but deep channel, and which, with good sailing directions and a chart, is safe of access even for a perfect stranger; the dangers are few and easily avoided, and a pilot is not necessary;—*probatum est*. I would not recommend the "Passage du Four;" all the dangers lie within Ushant; outside of it there are none, if a moderate offing is kept. I am not aware of any "Cape Finisterre" on that coast, or in the department of that name: certainly the only one "well known to mariners" is at the south-western extremity of the Bay. I will as briefly as I can follow the writer on the Ports of France, confining myself to his remarks on the French ships; I shall differ slightly with him in one or two points, without at all undervaluing the excellence and accuracy of his account generally.

That the beauty of the French models surpasses that of ours, is I think open to some discussion; that it did so in former years no one will deny, who has seen the old French models, and compared them with the few remaining of our own of the same date; the testimony of history to the fact is almost unnecessary: let any one who has been at Brest look at the *Tourville*, 71, or any of their old frigates, though of more modern build than the ship I have mentioned. It is not alone in beautiful ornament, and the taste of every part of her finish, that we find such legitimate ground for the admiration of this noble-looking old ship; but more elegant lines, a more graceful set of curves I never saw on the water. The present style of build shows that the French constructors have departed as widely as possible from all the "rococo" notions of their predecessors; they have, doubtless, done this on good

* I regret that the writer on the Ports of France has not given us a more detailed account of the town and neighbourhood of Brest, as well as of its inhabitants and the "Bretons" generally; he cannot have forgotten the almost unrivalled beauty of the shady promenade, skirting the parade-ground, and commanding a view of the noble bay, and the town is a lively, amusing, and, to a certain degree, a fashionable one.

grounds, but I was rather surprised to hear "beauty" predicated of the majority of French models, as seen at present. The fact I believe to be, that the French naval architects have thrown overboard all received notions of beauty derived from their lovely old models, have abandoned the dulce for the utile, and have sketched boldly, and without regard to elegance of form, such plans as seemed to promise strength, compactness, solidity, and the other essentials of a man-of-war. The sterns of their ships show this in an especial manner, and the observations in the pages of your Journal ought to make our builders mend their ways in this respect. The French sterns, whether round or square, are admirably adapted to answer all necessary ends, and though I cannot agree to their beauty in all cases, yet it would be easy to adopt their improvements, combined with a more graceful outline,—a thing, however (let our builders remember), of very little moment, and to be quite disregarded when standing in the way of real improvement.

The absence of our row of glass astern, adds to, rather than detracts from, a handsome appearance. The *Diadème*, a beautiful ship, somewhat of the old school, pierced for 90 guns, carrying 86 (I give these numbers from memory), had just four cabin windows—two on each deck; and a handsomer square stern I never saw: these windows were not shown by any paint, and at a distance were not perceptible on the black stern; no painted mullions, dwarf sham balustrades, &c.; plain narrow white streaks marked the rails, and the carving, which was very bold and elegant round the beautiful outline of the whole, was also white. I saw no sham windows anywhere, as in the quarter galleries of our corvettes, and in the *Modeste's* stern.

The French have not any frigates of dimensions equal to Vernons; *Didon* and her class are considerably smaller; but, on the other hand, it is true that "their ship sloops of war are as large as many of our small frigates"—it might be added, and twice as efficient. Indeed, the wretched class of ships we still keep up under the name of 28's (*North Star*, *Samarang*, *Talbot*, &c.) would not be suffered to continue to disgrace such a Navy as that of France. Their *gabares* and *corvettes de charge* are infinitely better ships. Nor have they any such inferior ships as the *Blonde* class with us. Well may it be asked why all that class are not razed into corvettes at once, and made good for something?

The French brigs, too, are a fine class of vessels, though not a very handsome one. They should hardly be called "18-gun brigs," which calls up visions of some of our own very inferior craft so called. I heard them called "*bricks de vingt*," and they carry that number of carronades, and have twelve ports on each side. I will describe their appearance, as some points of it refer to all modern French ships.

They are as nearly wall-sided as may be; head short, and one of the bobstays, leading from the extremity of the bowsprit, clear of the head, to the cutwater close to the water-line, like that of a cutter; head-rails and figure very high and planked up smooth, as described in your Journal; stern round, for the most part; no quarter-galleries, or any break or ornament of any kind; the white gun streak carried round without interruption; very little rake in the counter, which tumbles home a little aloft to about a line perpendicular with the rudder-head from which it started. To any one who has seen these curious sterns, the epithet of *bâtiment à cul rond* will seem remarkably apt. They carry,

like all French ships and vessels-of-war of every class, a poop (*dunette*) and a topgallant forecastle (*gaillard d'avant*). The masts are stepped at a most unsightly distance from one another, the main being very far aft. All classes of ships struck me as being over-masted, particularly when compared with our new ships. The poop aforesaid is a material addition to comfort and room, though the appearance of the deck is rather impaired by it. The sterns of all French frigates differ in consequence from ours in showing two sets of cabin-windows aft and in the quarter-galleries, those of the poop-cabins very small; the quarter-galleries of their square sterns, therefore, resemble those of a two-decked ship (*Jeanne d'Arc* was a very handsome instance), but quite plain in rails, lower and upper finishing, &c.

The *culs ronds* of their frigates have a singular addition, answering to our quarter-galleries, commonly called *bouteilles*. These bottles appear in some variety. *L'Amazone*, 60, had them of great projection, and answering very well to their name; bolt upright when seen in a broadside view, but diminishing a little as they ascended, and looking like small turrets stuck on alongside, with one window on the main deck, and a smaller one for the poop-cabins. *Didon*, 60, had another variety. Her *bouteilles* descended only half as low as the *Amazone's*, leaving her gun streak to run round like that of the *bricks* before mentioned. About this streak was a projecting gallery surrounded by iron rails, and supported by four well-carved caryatides. The poop-cabin (a very elegant one), with which this gallery communicated, was then, as now, tenanted by the Comte de la Retonnière, who had his flag at the mizen. A third variety, which I saw up the harbour, might be called a one-bottle-man, for there was one of these projections amidships over the rudder-head, its lines falling in with those of the stern. This plan certainly attains the superlative degree of ugliness. All the line-of-battle ships I saw completed had square sterns; so had a few of the large corvettes. A *vaisseau* (line-of-battle ship), à *cul rond*, if turned out like *L'Amazone*, &c., must present a most extraordinary contour; but I repeat that all these sterns are admirably calculated to meet the shock and strain of a seaway, or a hostile broadside, which the majority of our own cannot be said to be. Those lately used by Sir W. Symonds are far too overhanging to be good; the form of Roberts's sterns is very handsome, and far more rational. Sir W. S. has wonderfully improved our Navy, and his ships are very fine ones, but a man-of-war need not, either in cutwater or counter, affect the rakish, *élancé* air of a yacht. One word more about the models of their ships, as compared with ours. When the *Pique* and *Inconstant* sailed on one of their cruises, *La Dryade*, a first-class frigate, sailed with them, but could not even keep within sight of them, and returned to the Tagus after a very short trial indeed.

Many of their own officers (and a most candid, liberal set of men they seem) owned that our frigates surpassed theirs; but they seemed to rank their line-of-battle ships above ours. All those among them who have seen *Vernon* are in raptures with her to an extent which quite surprised me. *Didon's* officers knew *Vestal* out in the West Indies, and declared to me that they did not think any more lovely model could exist—certainly among their own ships *none does* at this day. They were especially struck, they told me, with the sharpness of her midship-section—all the French frigates *recently built* having very flat floors.

I must now turn to one, perhaps the most important, point in which our ships and theirs differ, and which has only been incidentally referred to by the writer of the article on Brest—I mean the system of *double-banking*, now introduced into every great naval Power except our own. I have said that Didon, and all her class, are inferior in dimensions to Vernon. They are not only inferior in dimensions, their stability is not nearly so great, and the muzzles of their guns are considerably nearer the water. Yet, with inferior capabilities, these ships have a heavier broadside. Didon is even narrower than Pique. On the advantages of double-banking, in a warlike point of view, I should think nothing need be said, the fact that these advantages are great has become evident to every Power but England. The French build in this way universally. *Diademe* (not a new ship, as I have observed) originally had no guns in the waist. Her model may be seen, as she used to be, in the model-room at Brest, but even then she had not the huge excrescence which our waist hammock-netting presents—her bulwarks ran along smooth, and the same height, where there were no guns. I saw the same thing in *La Flore*, a fine frigate, with a small vacant space left in the waist, her bulwarks could have been adapted for guns there easily. When I saw *Diademe*, which was just before her departure for Toulon, she carried three complete tiers—*carronades* on the upper-deck. *L'Océan*, in like manner, showed four regular rows of teeth, and struck me as a beautiful ship, though, I think, not “new,” from her model, and from the “*rentée*” of her topsides.

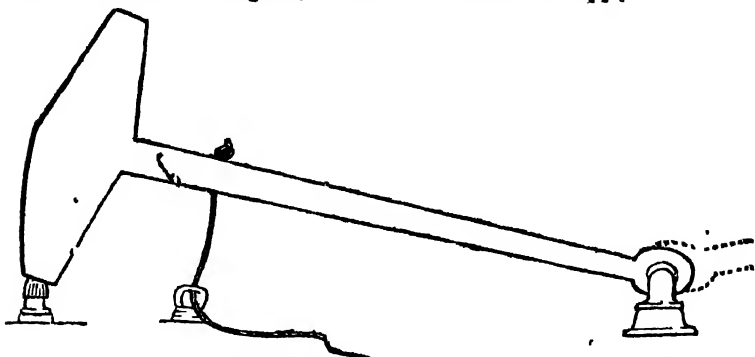
But there is another point of view in which the advantages of double-banking are perhaps even more obvious—the promotion of the sailing and sea-worthy qualities of the ship. The only vessels in our Service in which the weight seems so distributed as to do justice to the qualities of the craft are those from corvettes downwards. All others are heavily loaded at the extremities, where the lines of the fore and after body are often very delicate, and that part of the ship where weight should be concentrated is left empty.† What would a French builder (who gives Didon 42-pounder *carronades* all along her upper-deck) think of arming a ship like Pique with upper-deck guns weighing 40 cwt each, at the two extremities? I will not enlarge on a point on which so much is to be said, in the earnest hope that some of your naval readers will take it up more efficiently than I could, and that by this means the pages of your Journal may bring this most important subject before the eyes of those who bear rule in such matters.

The author of the article on “The Ports” did not notice a peculiarity in the gun-locks, it is new, and, I believe, as yet only partially introduced. I think it may be of value to us, were we ever willing to borrow from our neighbours what is really good. There is no spring used, therefore the thing is very simple, never can get out of order, and has

* Would *Inconstant* have carried away her bulwarks, as she did her waist-hammock-netting, on her recent passage home? The latter unsightly boxes are merely secured by iron stanchions, and have not the strength of the former. She lost a head-rail, too. Would planking over-smooth not have tended to avert this?

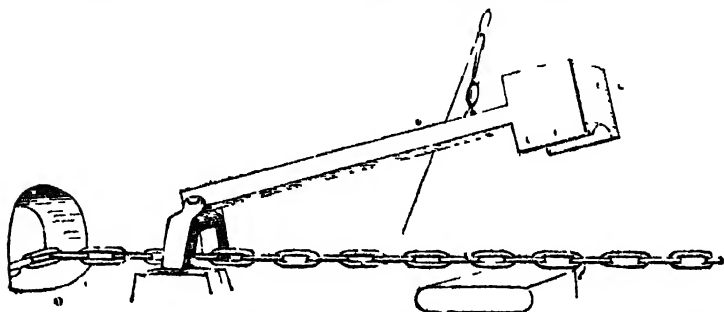
† On a par with this is the modern improvement of having one midship-magazine, instead of two at the extremities—thereby displacing from the centre, and throwing forward and aft, several tons of weight. This, too, on board such a model as Pique's, where loading the extremities spoiled the qualities of the ship. *Inconstant* had no such disadvantage.

a very handsome appearance. The hammer (of brass, and about the size of the annexed diagram) is fixed on one side the nipple.



It lies over towards the right, in the direction of the dotted lines, and is pulled over, and the gun fired, by the line represented. The proportions are not quite correct, as, at the angle I have shown, the line could hardly lift the hammer over, but I have shown the plan: the principle is so simple that any mechanic could embody it. Percussion locks of an ordinary shape had superseded flint locks, and the former in turn have given way to the plan I have mentioned.

The plan so well described by the author of the article for setting up the shrouds (and stays) is as yet very sparingly adopted. I only saw it on board a noble two-decker, *Diadème*, fitted with all kinds of new plans, by way of trial; the plan is not slightly by any means. Not only frigates, but line-of-battle ships also, have their main and mizen channels in one: this, especially in the latter, is heavy and ugly. On board the *Diadème* there was a new chain cable-compressor, in addition to the curved piece of iron used by us and the French for that purpose, and which they thought likely to supersede it. It consisted of a huge and ponderous iron hammer, situated close within the hawse-hole, on a pair of bits: this gives a rough idea of it:



On letting go the tackle which sustains the hammer, the progress of the chain is instantly stopped, and it was expected that no accident (as breaking in the case of the old compressor) was likely to befall this. The hammer fell so as to fit on to the links, and the whole strain acted longitudinally on the straight piece, whose great strength seemed to insure the safety of the plan.

Your correspondent thinks the not rattling the futtock-shrouds, and the mode of getting through "lubber's hole," an improvement. I have heard naval officers say the reverse—more men can run up outside, abreast, and at once, than in the French (and American) mode; and I have heard it stated as an inconvenience that, if the scuttles over these "holes" are left open, coils of rope, &c., find their way down, and that, were a whole-top permanently made by closing them, it would be better. *Au reste*, I saw Brest through the kindness of a friend, who gave me a two months' cruise, and my smattering of sea-matters has been picked up from cruises for several years past, and visits to sea ports, and an interest felt in the thing ever since I saw a ship on the sea.

V.

A PENINSULAR SAYING PUT INTO SONG.

MR. EDITOR,—The following lines were written many years ago in the Peninsula. They will recall an expression, in common use there during the war, to the minds of those of your readers who live upon the recollections of the past, and who, thanks to the liberality of a grateful country, have little else to live upon.

To the Editor
of the United Service Journal.

Your very obedient servant,
J. BOBADIL, Capt.

Away with each quiet domestic enjoyment,
And seek with your hard a more lively employment,
Quit your house, quit your land, quit your wife, quit your farm, ye
Will find there's some fun going on at the Army.

Without bed, without food, without fire, without stable,
'Tis sure your own fault if you're not comfortable;
Without spirits to cheer, or tobacco to calm ye,
There's always some fun going on at the Army.

And then the bull beef that is served out as ration,
Is so hard and so tough it defies mastication;
You your biscuit to break with a hammer must arm ye,
There's always some fun going on at the Army.

Your taste is fastidious, your temper not placid,
The women are hideous, the wine it is acid;
Without wine to enliven, or women to charm ye,
There's always some fun going on at the Army.

Your sleek English horses are grown sorry hacks,
Your mules once so sound have all got sore backs;
Your cloak's worn so thin it no longer will warm ye,
There's always some fun going on at the Army.

The rain falling hard all your equipage drenches,
You are sent without dinner to work in the trenches,
Where shot and where shell every moment alarm ye,
There's always some fun going on at the Army.

And if, by some chance, a benevolent bullet
Should let out your breath through a hole in your gullet;
Why, when you are dead they can't stop to embalm ye,
Amidst all the fun going on at the Army.

HEALTH AND TRAINING OF THE TROOPS.

I AM encouraged to hope that you, Mr. Editor, may be inclined to give admittance to a few hints with regard to a subject which has never yet attracted the notice of any man, either medical or military, but which, nevertheless, seems not without its importance. It is simply the use of oil, so universal with the natives of every hot country. A Greek, who had reached an extreme old age without being exposed to the ordinary infirmities, being asked, to what he owed his immunity from the same, answered, "To oil and honey."

Now, without inquiring into the virtues of the latter specific, I can venture to assert, from personal experience, one good quality of oil, viz., that it is a certain preventive against the bites of those numerous insects that are sometimes the most formidable enemy with whom the soldier or the traveller is doomed to contend. Myriads of those puny assailants abound, as every one knows, in all hot countries. The perpetuity of their attacks, and the impossibility of escape to the unguarded skin of a European, weary out the most robust, and subdue the patience of the hardest. In addition to the actual torture they inflict, they deprive you of rest, poison the blood, and, by the feverish irritation which they excite, predispose the constitution to the disorders familiar to the climate.

Now, if the mere rubbing a little cocoa-nut (or other) oil over the parts exposed were likely to be an antidote to this tormenting annoyance, it would surely be worth the experiment. Several years passed in a tropical climate, wherein I have frequently slept in the open air, as well as under roof, in situations peculiarly infested with mosquitoes, enable me to testify to the virtues of oil as a protection. Nor is this an opinion formed from my own solitary experience. Many of my companions could attest the entire immunity they derived from merely dipping the finger in a cup of oil, and passing it over the face, legs, &c. Certainly the tormentor in question is said to select his victims, and some bodies are more suitable to his palate than others; yet my own firm opinion is, that there is something in the nature of oil which, in almost every instance, acts as an impregnable case of armour against his attacks. At any rate the experiment would be perfectly innocuous, and might be productive of great benefit. The natives, it will be observed, who are all oiled, suffer little or no annoyance.

And as to the general use of oil so universal in torrid climates, it does seem that there must be something congenial to the human constitution in a custom as much without exception as the wearing of clothes in colder climates. Oil, in lubricating the body, renders the limbs supple and pliant; it closes, or, if you please, covers the pores, and thereby prevents that profuse perspiration which engenders a perpetual thirst, and is probably the primary cause of most diseases. Without presuming to conjecture how far any medical theory may coincide with this opinion, it would surely be a very harmless experiment on a sickly station; and, as fact is better than theory, the example of the natives of the torrid zone, and their general impunity from epidemics destructive to Europeans, would be a strong argument in its favour.

We all know that the custom of anointing the entire person with some unguents, more or less costly, was as universal among the Greeks and Romans as it is now among the less polished people of Hindostan, or the barbarians of Africa. How or when the fashion ceased altogether among Europeans is uncertain. Probably the barbarians who overran the Western Empire despised or neglected a custom altogether unsuited to their native climates, and, as their habits gained the ascendancy, the practice thus fell into general disuse. But we know that the Roman troops frequently marched from the cold and frosts of Germany to the burning heats and arid deserts of Africa and Syria, with little injury to their general health. Whether the constant lubrication of their limbs by oil rendered their bodies less sensible of the "skyey influences," is at least a fair subject of conjecture, especially when it is considered that constant bathing was a necessary consequence, and its natural result, personal cleanliness.

With regard to this all-important subject of the health of the troops and the *training* men to the labours of war, it really does seem surprising that no systematic plan for this purpose has existed in *any* European nation since the time of the Greeks and Romans. The loose discipline and desultory expeditions of the feudal militia rendered any general measure of that sort out of the question; but in modern times, when regular armies are trained, armed, and disciplined in every other respect on the most scientific principles, the continuous labour by which alone the human body is enabled to brave without danger, and even to court, extraordinary fatigue, and what sedentary people are wont to call and to consider hardships, this most important part of a soldier's education is left entirely to chance, or the taste and habits of the individual. It might indeed be added, that the prudish regulations of the barrack-yard are rather calculated to tempt the soldier to an indolent lounge, and to produce *ennui*, from which he is driven to seek refuge in the canteen.

I am aware that abler pens than mine have dwelt upon this important subject, that your Journal has repeatedly suggested to the proper authorities the great benefits the Service could not fail to derive from a few months of camp duty in the summer, and the encouragement of military sports and other matters conducive to the soldier's health, or calculated to inspire a right military feeling. In the name of wonder, what are they about? Do they conceive a soldier is to be treated like a house-dog, alternately caressed or neglected, according to circumstances? Is he to be tied up in ordinary, and only let loose when his services are required? But the noblest animal may be ruined by constant inaction. He must be regularly trained to his arduous duties, if it is expected that he should face with success the wild ranger of the forest.

All the celebrated republics of antiquity trained men to war, by the enforcement of certain daily labours calculated to inure their bodies to fatigue, or by the legislative encouragement of every military sport likely to rouse their native energies and prepare them for the battlefield. The spade and pick-axe were instruments as familiar to the Roman soldier as the sword and pilum. They constructed roads whose permanent solidity astonished us at the present day. Their useful labours were directed not only to the fortifying every camp, but to the erection of forts, harbours, and buildings of the most durable description

and of general utility. They amused their leisure hours by athletic sports, racing, jumping, swimming, throwing the discus, hurling the javelin, or shooting with the arrow; and the conqueror in all these exercises was invariably rewarded by an honorary distinction, coupled with some substantial prize. In every climate they vied with the native in braving the weather; they yielded not to the robust German in bodily vigour, nor to the nimble African in celerity. As long as this discipline was rigidly enforced victory was constant to their standards; but, when the disorders of the State introduced a fatal relaxation, the hardy barbarians soon taught them that mere science in general tactics is an insufficient substitute for personal vigour in the private soldier.

It may be thought, and has been sometimes asserted, that bodily strength is not so requisite since the invention of gunpowder, but no one will deny that personal vigour is even now of the first importance—that it necessarily implies high health and a capability of enduring hardships. But, though strength may be born with a man, the vigour I speak of is a thing to be acquired; it is the result of long habit and continuous labour; it renders constant bodily exercise one of the pleasures of life. A Spanish peasant, it has been observed, will, after a journey of forty miles, instead of retiring to rest, join the dance on the green; and an Englishman, in similar circumstances, will enjoy his game of cricket. The most skilful boxer submits to a hard and painful training whenever he prepares for actual conflict; and if the incessant labour of the Roman soldier is incompatible with modern habits, yet those military sports and pastimes which are so congenial to the national taste might, by a very little official encouragement, be rendered a tolerable substitute. Every barrack-yard should have two or three fives-courts, and every permanent military depôt a piece of ground sufficiently extensive for the purposes of a sporting ground. Their Campus Martius would thus become the favourite resort of the soldiery, and if it did not supersede would infallibly nullify the baneful effects of the canteen.

As to the idea of weaning the private from bad habits by books and reading, or the introduction of regimental schools, it really seems too ridiculous for argument. If a man has a taste that way he will improve himself, and is sure to meet with encouragement. But such is the composition and temper of our army, that probably nine-tenths of the men would rather submit to the hardest out-door labour than be doomed to spend their leisure hours in crawling pot-hooks or spelling in a horn-book.

Since the first introduction of a standing military force by Louis XI., or perhaps his father, the French have paid the most solicitous attention to their armies. The military character under the old régime, as well as the new, has always been held in high repute. Certain privileges have been conceded; and, among other modes of inspiring enthusiasm and making the soldier proud of his situation, the frequent fêtes with which they are indulged, and free admission to places of public resort, are not the least valuable. Where would be the harm or what the danger if soldiers were allowed, under certain restrictions as to time, to view the Tower, the Museum, and other such dé pôits? And what sordid economy would grudge the expense of a fête on the anniversary of some glorious exploit performed by a regiment? Double rations for a single day would be sufficient; and, supposing them to be permitted to invite

their friends, the *éclat* of the thing would be highly flattering to the feelings of the veterans, as well as an encouragement to their younger comrades.

The strength of every machine must depend on the soundness and solidity of its component parts, and the efficiency of an army on the separate capabilities of the mass of individuals who compose it. It is the part of short-sighted presumption to consider as trifles things to which the most consummate generals have attached the highest importance. We are now at peace, and peace is the season for improvement. War admits of no delay. The selfishness which neglects the country's brave defenders in the hour of tranquillity is not more detestable than the negligence which overlooks them is reprehensible. The storm which lately threatened us has apparently blown over; yet we know not how soon the clouds may again collect. There has been, perhaps still exists, a rebellion in our colonies. Disaffection at home scarcely assumes the mask of plausibility. Jacobins of every grade and nation hate England as the only support of genuine liberty; despots dread her as the unflinching guardian of the world's welfare; sordid envy pines at her well-earned wealth, her greatness and glory, and would fain reduce her to the common level; treachery or infatuation at home affects to underrate her foreign possessions—the very mainspring of her power: those colonies, acquired at the expense of so much British blood, as they have been gained so must they be maintained by the sword: and, considering the great numerical superiority we may not improbably be some day summoned to encounter, our only hopes of victory or even safety must depend on the efficient state of our Army and Navy; nor can that efficiency be better promoted than by attending to those minutiae which can in any way contribute to the health, comfort, and feelings of the private soldier.

L. A.

CAPTURE OF THE FORMIDABLE SLAVER, BY HER MAJESTY'S BRIG BUZZARD.

MR. EDITOR,—Though late, perhaps the particulars of a gallant action (the last fought on the coast of Africa) may not be unacceptable to the readers of your widely-diffused journal.

Your correspondent is sorry he has not been able to procure the letter of Rear-Admiral Campbell, C.B. (now Vice-Admiral Sir P. Campbell), on this occasion.

This action gave promotion to Lieutenant Milward.

London, July 10th, 1838.

H.M.B. Buzzard, at sea, 19th Dec., 1834.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you, for the information of the Commander-in-Chief, that, in compliance with your orders, received from the Griffon, whilst cruising off the Old Calabar, on the 17th inst., I succeeded in capturing, by boarding (after a smart action of three-quarters of an hour), the Spanish slave-brig *Formidable*, pierced for eighteen guns, having on board six grovers, 18-pounders, and two long 16-pounders, with upwards of 700 slaves.

I am happy to state that, notwithstanding the great resistance made by the *Formidable*, we have had no loss of life, and only six wounded—one man and one boy dangerously.

The loss on board the *Spaniard* amounted to six killed, including the

mate and carpenter; five severely wounded, including the Captain; and eight of the crew with three of the slaves, slightly.

Our fore and maintop-mast stays were cut, running rigging and sails much damaged, flying jib-boom shot away, and bumpkin carried away in boarding.

It gives me much pleasure to bring under your notice the bravery and good conduct of the officers and men under my command, who merit my warmest thanks. They were constantly on the sweeps from half-past 9 A.M. until we commenced firing at fifteen minutes past 4 P.M.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

A. W. MILWARD, Lieut.-Commanding.

To Com. Meredith, H.M.S. Pelorus, Senior Officer,

&c. &c. &c.

H.M.S. Pelorus, at sea, Dec. 22nd, 1834.

Lat. $2^{\circ} 30' N$, long. $8^{\circ} 25' E$.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst., relating to the capture of the Formidable, Spanish armed slave brig, by H.M. brigantine Buzzard, under your command, two days previously, by boarding, after a chase of seven hours on the sweeps, and an action of three-quarters of an hour.

Your letter I have forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief, with such remarks as I thought right to make on so gallant an affair. In the meantime I have to express my admiration of your conduct throughout the whole of this business, and to desire you will convey to the officers and ship's company of the Buzzard my entire approbation of the perseverance with which they exerted themselves to close with the Formidable, and of the coolness and bravery they displayed when brought in contact with persons resisting the orders under which you act.

You will be pleased to send me the names of the wounded for the information of the Commander-in-Chief.

I am, Sir, your obedient humble servant,

RICHD. MEREDITH,

Commander and Senior Officer.

To Lieut. A. W. Milward, commanding H.M. brigantine

Buzzard.

H.M.S. Pelorus, at sea, 22nd of December, 1834.

Lat. $2^{\circ} 30' N$, long. $8^{\circ} 25' E$.

SIR,—It is with the greatest satisfaction I have the honour to enclose a letter I have just received from Lieutenant Milward, of the Buzzard, detailing the capture of El Formidable Spanish slave-brig, with upwards of 700 slaves on board.

Nothing but the extreme diffidence (the sure characteristic of such gallantry) with which Lieutenant Milward reports this capture would induce me to add to his statement, but I feel it my duty to lay the case clearly before you.

The Formidable was formerly a "guarda costa" of larger dimensions than the Pelorus, armed as described, purposely equipped and manned for resistance, most perfectly prepared, as reported by the senior Lieutenant of this sloop, who visited her in our boats up the Calabar; and her commander had expressed his determination not to be captured by any of our small cruisers.

The coolness and gallantry with which she was boarded and captured by one of those very small vessels which she despised, in spite of the determined resistance she made, can only be equalled by the mercy which checked the well-disciplined bravery of the Buzzard's gallant crew the moment resistance ceased, and saved the lives of many of the Spaniards, who were followed up by the boarders, as well as of the wretched slaves, who were dressed in red jackets, &c., with the hope of intimidating, by their great show of force.

The Formidable was the crack vessel here, and I trust I may be permitted to add, that in no action on this coast has the disparity of force been greater, the resistance more determinedly kept up, or more coolly and gallantly overcome, than in this instance.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

RICHARD MEREDITH, Commander.

To Rear-Admiral P. Campbell, C.B.
Commander-in-Chief, &c. &c. &c.
Cape of Good Hope.

THE BANNER OF BLUE.

Rouse thee, rouse thee! to the loud cry,
And hark to the signal strain!

'Tis thy country that calls, then hie,
And let not her summons be vain.

The peal that has echo'd so wide
Should hasten the noble and brave
To rally by liberty's side,

Their homes and their altars to save
Unfurl, then, the banner of blue!

'Tis tinted of ocean and sky;
Let none but the gallant and true

Be found 'neath that banner to vie.

The symbol of faith, of honour so true;
The banner of fame, the banner of blue.

'Tis the voice of thy own native land,
The soil of the dauntless and bold,
That bids thee by freedom to stand,
And bide by her banner of old.

Be firm to her trust, and her fame
Shall circle with laurels thy brow;

'Tis deeds that ennoble a name!
As leaves vest with beauty the bough!

Wave the standard abroad to the breeze:
Hurra! for the banner of blue!

The flag that floats free o'er the seas,
Still borne by the bold and the true.

The symbol of faith, now hoisted to view,
The banner of fame, the banner of blue.

Hail! hail! to our streamer of pride,
That rules on wide ocean and earth!

As reigns the moon queen o'er the tide,

'Tis our hearts-sway since liberty's birth.

'Twas prudence and valour that wove
The emblem of union it wears,

And stanch were the hearts and the loyalty
That charter'd the freedom it bears.

Hurra! for the banner of fame!

The conquests and trophies it won
Are link'd to dear Albion's name,

And the deeds of renown she hath done.

To flag, throe, and realm, be steadfast and true,
Hurra! for old England's famed banner of blue!

J. F.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

FRANCE.

MILITARY STORES AND ORDNANCE.

The following calculation of the stock in hand is independent of the *matériel* possessed by the National Guards. It is estimated to consist of 3000 pieces of heavy cannon, 1567 field pieces of brass or bronze, 1862 field-pieces of iron, 1562 howitzers, 4,100,000 large and 4,010,000 small cannon-balls, 1,000,000 cartridges, 710,000 bombs, 22,000,000 pounds of gunpowder, 1,000,256 firelocks in store, 74,000 carbines, 850,000 infantry and 130,000 cavalry swords, 5200 pickaxes, and 12,000 cuirasses.

THE NAVY.

On the 17th of January the total number of individuals employed in the sea-service, of all descriptions, amounted to 110,589. Amongst whom there were 10,836 Captains, commanders of vessels, and pilots, and of that number 272 belonged to the public, and 6946 were engaged in the merchant service. The staff of the military corps in the Navy is composed of 29 Generals, 228 superior officers, and 1250 subalterns and cadets. The ships in commission were,—10 of the line, 12 frigates, 26 sloops or corvettes, 63 brigs and galleys, 12 luggers, and 17 steam-boats.

SUPPLY OF MEN FOR THE NAVAL SERVICE.

As soon as a young man has been eighteen months apprenticed in the coasting trade, or has made two voyages at sea, or has been employed two years in the fisheries, he is registered in the lists of the district to which he belongs. Besides this class of mariners, all other persons, be they ages what they may, who enter mercantile vessels or engage in the fisheries, are inscribed in the registers as soon as they have seen service, as above detailed: nor is any exception made in their favour, although they may have run the gauntlet of the ballot for the Army, or have served their time in the ranks. The record of their names in the register of mariners, liable to serve, is all that is necessary to fix that liability upon them, and both in their case, and that of every regularly bred seaman, this liability continues until the age of fifty. All become as much the property of the State as the Russian serf does that of the land owner at the moment of his birth.

Whenever there is need of sailors for the naval service, the naval Prefect announces the quota of men to be supplied from each district to the local supervisor or commissary. The latter hereupon directs the syndic of the Navy to send him twice or thrice the number of mariners required; and he makes such selections from them as he thinks proper. No exemption whatever is admitted, even though a man may be the sole support of his family, or may have arrived the very moment before from a long voyage: nay, even though he may have all his brothers serving in the Navy. There is no appeal from the will or caprice of the commissary. If the poor fellow make a single remark which may be unpalatable to this jack in office, he can send him forthwith to prison, and, if he choose, forward him under the escort of a gendarme to the place of his destination. The sailor receives twenty-two centimes (about 7½d) per league for marching money: he is sent on board immediately on his arrival, and supplied with a uniform and such necessaries as the Captain of the ship may designate; their value being deducted from the wages he may afterwards earn. When his services are no longer required he is sent home, and, if his wages are not sufficient to liquidate the amount of the charge for his equipments, the balance is deducted from the first earnings; he may become entitled to in

the mercantile service. If a fresh levy of seamen be in progress, he is liable to be instantly ordered to another ship; and many instances could be cited where sailors have been re-embarked on three different summonses, without having been allowed as little as twelve months for visiting their families or friends. There is nothing to prevent a sailor from serving thirty-two years without intermission; for he may be forced to remain in the Navy from the age of eighteen to fifty, while his fellow-mariners may have the good fortune never to be called upon to enter it.

But this is not all the vexation which the seaman has to digest. It may chance that his early education has not been neglected, and he has made good use of his subsequent opportunities: some shipowner is desirous of giving him the command of one of his vessels, and the man solicits permission to accept the appointment of Captain. He has now to undergo examination before the two examiners, appointed by the Minister of the Marine, who are annually sent down from Paris. One of them makes his appearance twelve days or a fortnight before the other, and examines candidates publicly in the practice of navigation; those whom he may deem to fall short in their qualities are at once rejected, and this is a complete bar to their presenting themselves to the other examiner, who has to ascertain the quantum of their theoretical knowledge. This examiner also makes his selection, and such as are rejected by him have to wait for the succeeding year's examination, if they can screw up their courage to the ordeal. These two officers are complete arbiters of the seaman's fate: there is no appeal against their verdict; and it rests with them entirely, either to make a man Captain or consign him back to his humble berth of common seaman, with all its hardships and slavery, with as little as possible to incite or reward, and as much as can be imagined to dishearten, and discourage, and break his spirit.—T.

AUSTRIA.

There is at this moment a horse of extraordinary age and qualities in Prince Schwarzenberg's regiment of Hulans. He is a grey, and was brought from the Ukraine in 1805, as one of the remount for the regiment: he was christened by the name of Abraham, and made over to a trumpeter. At the battle of Ulm he lost his rider by a cannon-ball, and received a severe sabre-cut himself across his nostrils; in spite of which a trooper instantly threw himself across his vacant saddle. The courage which Abraham displayed insured his promotion to the dignity of a charger to an officer in the regiment; and he upheld his reputation in many a severe encounter on the Danube, as well as on the soil of France. In spite of his years, Abraham is to this day accounted one of the best and swiftest horses in the regiment.

SYRIA:

Extract of a letter from the head-quarters of Ibrahim Pasha at Horan, about thirty miles from Damascus:—"Dr. Bowring and others before me had been refused admission to head-quarters, and I should most probably have been treated to a similar denial, had I, like them, solicited leave. I determined, however, to start, trusting to the chapter of accidents, and under escort of ten Bedouins. It is true, I have no reason to boast of a cordial welcome, nor of having been allowed to take a personal part in Ibrahim's expedition, for the Turks still retain much of their olden mistrust towards foreigners: yet I succeeded in accomplishing my chief purpose, which was to obtain real information as to the state of things, and see as much as I could of them with my own eyes. If we are to believe our European papers, nothing short of the major part of Syria, to wit, the mountain districts, are in open rebellion, and bearding the Viceroy's troops in considerable force.

"This is quite a mistake. The whole of the Druses, who are under Emir Beshir's influence, in other words, all Libanon and its neighbourhood, as well as Palestine and the Mediterranean border, have abstained from taking part in the insurrection, with the exception of two insignificant villages, which were reduced to submission in four-and-twenty hours, and a few scattered bands of robbers, small in number, who still infest Antelibanon in some directions, but are formidable to none but isolated travellers, who do not possess the means of beating them off. There is, however, a separate community of Druses, who have contrived to harass Mehemid Ali pretty sharply; these are the Druses inhabiting the district of Horan about Mount Ledshiah, a clan of notorious freebooters, who, under the feeble sway of the Turkish Pashas, were allowed to follow their calling almost with impunity. Their utmost numbers do not exceed two thousand, but it was nearly doubled, at the outset of the insurrection, by malcontent refugees, as well as an accession of plundering Bedouins from the desert. In spite of the paucity of their numbers, these people have been able to resist six times their own force for several months. Their success has in part been owing to the incapacity of the first Egyptian commanders who were opposed to them, and the contempt in which the Egyptians held them; in part, and principally, however, to the extraordinary and almost unassailable position which the revolted occupy. Neither can we deny them the merit of uncommon gallantry; a gallantry amounting, indeed, almost to desperation. Hence the signal overthrows which they have given Mehemid Ali's troops on more than one occasion. The war, in fact, is a repetition, on a smaller scale, of what occurred in Spain when Napoleon overran it, no less than of the astonishing resistance which Circassia is at this moment offering to the colossal power of Russia. The theatre of insurrection in Syria is a mountainous, volcanic region, about thirty miles in length, and from sixteen to twenty in breadth; a perfect labyrinth, difficult enough to climb through on foot, but impracticable altogether for horses; where, without seeing the face of an assailant, you are exposed to a shower of bullets from hands that rarely mark a prey without hitting home. On such ground as this, there is, of course, little scope for the application of tactics or strategics, nor can any expense of human life master such a position in a month or day. A campaign, conducted under difficulties like those I have described, to which the imbecility of the assailants' commanders proved a great aggravation, was, of all others, the most calculated to demoralize regular troops. But as soon as some thousands of Albanese and Arnauts, who are adepts in mountain warfare, were brought into the field, and a more skilful plan of operations was set in action, under the direction of Soliman Pasha, and subsequently of Ibrahim Pasha, whose name is synonymous with victory, the war speedily took a very different turn, and may now be considered as brought to a close. The Arabians, having no prospect of further pillage before them, have withdrawn into the desert; and a considerable portion of the Druses and malcontent refugees, who were adroitly tempted to fight on less unfavourable ground, have been destroyed. The remainder, about fifteen hundred Druses, posted in their impregnable labyrinth, continue the contest with desperation, and now and then make successful sorties, giving proof of their courage and reckless daring, but shorn of the power of occasioning any serious apprehensions with regard to the ultimate issue."—*Prince Pückler-Muskau.*

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE UNITED-SERVICE JOURNAL.

Colonel Mitchell in reply to "Spectator."

MR. EDITOR,—In the last Number of the United Service Journal there is a long, and rather angry, *trade* against myself, which I should certainly not have honoured with a single word of notice, had it not been entitled "Promotion by Purchase," and mixed up with a few short passages advanced in support of that system. At this particular moment no such defence must be overlooked; I shall therefore copy out the whole of the article, from first to last, and, as I go along, add a few remarks to show, not only the reasoning, but the spirit also, by which the practice is upheld.

It is right to state here, that I have from the first been the assailed party in this controversy, and that my adversaries were anonymous writers. This circumstance, as there was no personal identity, naturally prevented me from giving any personal offence, even if I had been so disposed, though I hope the reverse was the case, for, suspecting, I hardly know why or wherefore, that I knew who was the writer of the article signed "Spectator," I particularly requested you, Mr. Editor, to send me the proofs of my last letter, in order, as stated, that I might strike out and modify some of the passages, though only directed against anonymous arguments. The alterations were made accordingly, nor am I sorry for it, little as the author deserves such forbearance at my hands.

The upholders of the system of purchase always keep the real merits of the question so completely out of sight, that it may be well to state it again before we proceed with the discussion: it is this. Considering the absolute power which, even in peace, officers exercise, and must exercise, over the fortunes and happiness of the soldiers,—recollecting that, in time of war, the lives of thousands and the security of the empire depend upon the energy, courage and intelligence of the holders of military rank,—is there, we say, any principle, human or divine, that civilized men have ever acknowledged as the guide of their actions, which can justify the sale for money of so responsible a rank and power, or can justify its being given to any but candidates of the highest discoverable merit? This is the question which has been asked from the first, but still remains unanswered. And now to "Spectator."

1. *Spec.*—"Whatever may be the merits of Colonel Mitchell's theory of promotion, he himself must admit that his views are *new* indeed, he takes credit for having originated them within these two years. In resuming, therefore, the former argument, it may be permitted to remind him, that, as the proposer of change, he is not warranted in supposing that he alone has a right to set down his antagonists, who support the results of experience, as already overthrown, by the arguments which he has brought forward."

It is needless, I suppose, to tell any reader of ordinary judgment that I never claimed so foolish a privilege.

2. *Spec.*—"As for 'Britannicus,' Colonel Mitchell appears to think he has set him at rest by calling him ironically 'a distinguished logician,' and by telling him that his arguments resembled those which caused the Spanish *auto da fe*, a strange and far-fetched simile, which may puzzle, but can scarcely persuade, the general reader, who, Colonel Mitchell must be aware, is, in fact, the judge in the cause, and not he himself. Nor will such a judge be influenced by the joke (if meant as such) that 'poor little Britannicus is no Grand Inquisitor'."

Here is a little want of memory. For the sake of the good cause Colonel Mitchell took the trouble of dissecting the letters of "Britannicus" passage by passage; he quoted fully and fairly, so that the reader might judge for himself; having done so, he certainly termed the writer a "brilliant logician," leaving it, of course, to my gentlemen to produce the respective

arguments and to call for a different verdict. As to the "Grand Inquisitor," it was an illustration which could puzzle no person who had read much beyond army-lists and gazettes the question is, was it applicable?

3 *Spec*—"Now, whether 'Britannicus' be tall or little, he seems to write in an unaffected and plain style, and he has, in that respect at least, an advantage over his opponent. It will not do for one who agrees in most of the arguments of 'Britannicus' to affirm that he had the best of it."

I shall not call "Spectator" little, for I believe that he is tall; nor shall I question his taste in regard to style. That he admires "Britannicus" is natural, the latter can hardly fail to return the compliment. I have, therefore, only to congratulate the gentlemen on their respective trumpeters.

4 *Spec*—"It will be a less presumptuous course to leave the decision to the reader, first protesting, however, against Colonel Mitchell's inference, 'that any one who dissents from his theories cannot have read them' 'Spec,' as he calls the writer of this paper, begs to assure him he has read many passages of his arguments more than once, in the hope of making out their meaning, but—

'Ter frustra comprehensa manus effugit imago,
Par levibus ventis volucisque similima somno.'

It was exactly to enable the reader to judge for himself that I quoted the passages to which I replied. Who could ever guess at anything brought forward in an argument by such statements as those of "Spectator" and "Britannicus"? Where, for instance, did I ever say that any one who dissents from my theories could not have read them? Yet this is the manner in which the system of purchase has been defended from the first. "Spectator" says he could not always make out my meaning, "Britannicus" made the same complaint, but it does not follow that the fault is mine. I have been honoured with some notice by the critical press of the day, and no one has accused me of writing unintelligibly, but it is said that none are so deaf as those who are unwilling to hear, and the principle may perhaps apply in the present case also.

"Spectator" seems to take umbrage at the abbreviation of his signature; it is only abridged where it marks the quotation, such being, I think, the general practice. In speaking of him I always give him every letter, and I think I could, perhaps, give him his name at length: this, however, is only "as I guess."

5 *Spec*—"Colonel Mitchell complains that, although when he wrote on tactics several officers of distinction essentially differed from him, they treated him with courtesy in their replies, but that, when he touched on *Mammon*, by which very odd epithet he is pleased to call 'Promotion by Purchase,' courtesy and logic (he is very fond of quoting logic) were set aside, and that his adversaries never ventured to quote or lace a single one of his arguments. Now, has he a right to say this, or is the reader to be allowed the usual privilege of judging for himself?"

He has a right to do so, because he always quoted the passages from which his conclusions were drawn. If wrong, the refutation is therefore at hand. all above-board, word for word. Further; I never did call promotion by purchase by the "odd epithet" of mammon;—these people cannot quote a single sentence correctly;—and if I was often forced to appeal to logic, it was because my adversaries set its indispensable rules completely at defiance. The unhappy science was never so dreadfully mauled, not even in the wildest controversies of the sixteenth century, as it has been of late by the upholders of the system of purchase.

6. *Spec*—"In the same spirit he requests his reader, in Latin, to restrain his laughter—'risum teneatis'—at the idea of any one supposing him, Colonel Mitchell, to be a military agitator. Let the reader again have his privilege of laughing or not, but there seems nothing to excite merriment in so dry a subject."

To be called a "military agitator" would, in itself, be a serious rather than a jesting matter. I ridiculed the idea of being an agitator "by disturbing the minds" of the non-purchasing officers of the Army, with the very novel information that wealthier comrades could purchase over their heads; and

nothing can well, I should think, be more ridiculous; but "Spectator," like "Britannicus," left out the words that gave the real meaning to the sentence. Any attempt to intoxicate men, for mischievous purposes, with port wine or punch, may be criminal: propose to intoxicate them with weak bohea, and you will be laughed at.

"Spectator," like all angry persons, is very much afraid of a jest; I wrote in sober earnest, for the subject is a serious one. But the idea of selling military rank, of opening a shop, as it were, for the sale of courage, energy, and intelligence, can only be redeemed from ridicule by a recollection of the sorrows and the evils to which the practice may give rise.

I beg the reader's particular attention to the next passage, being about as powerful an argument as any brought forward in support of the system by purchase: it contains besides important historical information.

7. *Spec.*—"It is recorded of Moliere, that, when he desired to put to the test the drollery of any particular dialogue of the comedy he was writing, he used to send for his old housekeeper, and watch her countenance while he read it aloud to her, for he knew, by repeated trials, that what made her laugh usually had the same effect on the audience.

"Now, if Colonel Mitchell will try the same plan, by requesting any old housekeeper he may know of to listen to his intended sallies before he commits them to print, he may, perhaps, better be able to find out what is comical and likely to make his reader laugh."

Being unfortunately a bachelor,—and I say it with grief and sorrow,—I have no old housekeeper. But, if an old lady (to use the term courteous) will do as well, I might know where to apply, if you, Mr. Editor, could induce your contributor to listen to my humble lucubrations, should I feel disposed to adopt the present suggestion.

8. *Spec.*—"Colonel Mitchell calls it a proof of want of encouragement in our Service that we have no strategical treatises, though he admits that our officers have published excellent works on gunnery, fortification, &c. Now, does he really think that it is from ignorance that Lord Hill, Sir G. Murray, Sir J. Kempt, Sir John Colborne, and other leading officers of the Peninsular War, do not publish some ponderous volumes on the art of strategy, after the model of General Jomini?"

Now, by the power of rigmarole itself, who ever heard of gentlemen being suspected of ignorance because they refrained from writing books? Why Pitt, Chatham, Nelson, Windham, Camden, Wolfe, Rockingham, Harvey, Clive, Hastings, Marlborough, and hosts of other great men, never wrote a volume among them, and who ever suspected them of ignorance? Books have sometimes told against their authors, and even a magazine article may, in some slight degree, perhaps, tend to dim the lustre of a moderate star; but the non-writing of a book never yet told against any one. Some men write for fame and distinction, some for money, and others, like the author of this article, because they have nothing better to do. But, though none are called upon to write books by the dictates of station, it is evident that no science, and least of all the difficult and complicated science of war, can make any progress unless by the aid of letters, and we have not a single known volume on tactics or strategy in the language. We have no work that attempts to define the relative power of arms—to show what they can effect separately or collectively; nothing, in fact, to lead to reflection, and to guide us through the dark paths of the most difficult of all professions. Speculations on these points—and they can never be more than speculations—can never, on that account, come well from the authorities who must deal in positive orders and commands. They, the authorities, must form the Army; how the different parts are to be employed, in the thousand different situations troops are liable to be placed in, can never be distinctly pointed out by rule and regulation. Such matters must be left to the intelligence of commanders, and we have no works in the language that call to reflection on the subject, or furnish the knowledge on which it can alone be founded.

There are so many able and intelligent officers in all ranks of the British Army, that I can only explain their silence by the general conviction that no encouragement is given to professional knowledge and application. Can no spark of new light be thrown on the science of war, and does no British officer think himself capable of offering even a hint or suggestion on the subject? Men endeavour to forward the progress of all other sciences because they have an object in doing so—they expect either honour or wealth, how comes it, then, that no one strives to forward the science of arms, unless from the impression that no reward will attend his labours? On the continent, the science was—till very lately, at least—a closed science, on which authors could only write in accordance with existing practices, so that little good could come of their exertions. Bulow died in prison for attempting another course.

As to the British officers above named, had any of them felt a call for writing, they would certainly have produced something much better than Jomini's shallow work. But what right had any one, least of all such a reasoner as "Spectator," to mention my name in connexion with any supposed ignorance on the part of my superiors?

9. *Spec.*—Colonel Napier, it is true, has attempted to introduce, in his *History of the War*, several imposing lectures on strategy, which, unfortunately for the credit of his book have been sadly pulled to pieces by a reviewer, who, from the important information to which he had evident access, appears to have been an officer of rank on the Staff of the Peninsular Army. Possibly that able reviewer and many other such officers may think Picton's *Field-Orders*, in duodecimo, a better military treatise than many tomes of German strategy. One thing is clear, that, whether the Peninsular Generals were authors or not, they were a class who will go down to posterity with the reputation of no small knowledge of the art of war.

Napier and the Quarterly may fight their own battle, being well able to do so. But as to the officer who is generally believed to have written the review of the Colonel's history, I am inclined to think that he would look upon the Archduke Charles' work—over-rated as it is—as about one hundred times superior to anything that Picton ever could have written. It is, as far as I know, the only German "tome" answering to the title of strategy.

No rational person ever supposed that the fame of the Peninsular Generals was lessened by their not being authors, even the present writer, speaking of them in a late periodical, said that "the sun never shone on a nobler host than the superior officers of that army. But there may have been Generals, as well as other officers, among them, who gathered their laurels, stars, and promotion, far more under the splendour of victory, achieved by the genius of their leader and the high spirit and intelligence of the mass, than by any light which their own deeds or talents cast over the actions of war. An officer of "Spectator's" knowledge and experience should not require information of these self-evident matters.

We now come, at last, to some passages on "Promotion by Purchase," and, considering that the author states the points clearly and ably, and without any insinuations directed against an adversary, it is to be regretted that he should ever have followed a different course.

10. *Spec.*—"To return, however, to the question of Promotion by Purchase, all the logic of Colonel Mitchell, and the arguments of those antagonists he treats so scornfully, come within a small and easily defined compass. If you could make sure of a tribunal not only perfectly free from all bias, but possessing a more than mortal insight into character—and if, besides this, you could have an annual campaign, and promote by merit at the end of each autumn, the same as you give commissions to Cadets at Sandhurst in exact proportion to their proved acquirements—Colonel Mitchell might reasonably maintain promotion by merit to be feasible to a great extent. But, without such means of trial, who is to say what is merit in each case? Suppose a regiment ten years in cantonments in India—what magic or instinct would enable the Horse Guards to discover which of the thirty Subalterns

was most deserving of promotion; and, suppose them to make the most judicious cast, how are they to convince the other twenty-nine that each of them is inferior to the favoured *merit man*."

To begin at the end. The Horse-Guards dispose of regiments, commands, and Staff situations; they grant all promotions, by sale and otherwise, to the Unattached as well as to the Effective; they bring officers from half-pay to full-pay, to sell, or serve, as the case may be. On all such occasions there are necessarily far more claimants than vacancies; how, then, do the authorities convince the disappointed that they are inferior to the appointed? Simply, I should think, for I pretend not to be behind the curtain, by exercising with politeness and urbanity the absolute and arbitrary power which belongs and must belong to them, if subordination is to be preserved. What officer of a disciplined army ever presumed to ask a Commander-in-Chief, why he, the rejected, was not the favoured man?

Let us now go back to the beginning of the passage. By the second paragraph of this very article, the reader will see that the question was always put upon a far broader basis than is here pretended: and as to my antagonists, I know nothing about them; I copy out their arguments and state my replies, leaving the reader to judge between us: if the gentlemen are not pleased with the result, the fault is theirs and not mine.

To the next passage of the text. We live in a world of mortal men, have all the failings which belong to our feeble species, and cannot expect that any of our institutions will ever attain to absolute perfection; but we are bound, nevertheless, to use all our efforts to improve them; and when—as in the appointment of officers—the lives, fortunes, and happiness of soldiers are at stake, we are bound to this evident and imperative duty by God's high word itself. As to campaigns, it is needless to speak—the object of efficient armies is to preserve peace; but we must be ready to take the field, when necessary, in the most formidable state of preparation which our means enable us to obtain. It is not in the lists that the champion must be instructed; he must bring science with him to the combat, and then practice and experience will improve his skill, and confidence will nerve his arm.

A more than mortal insight into mere mortal character can hardly be necessary, considering that the value of individuals is pretty well known in most of the societies to which they belong—particularly in military society. Ordinary schoolmasters, not always the best judges of character, generally know the dunces from the clever fellows, even when the latter are idle and unapt scholars. What then should prevent men of high character, talents, and knowledge of the world—that is, the class of men who should alone rise to high situations, to the command of regiments, districts, foreign stations, and influential Staff appointments—from gradually and collectively forming a fair estimate of the merit of their subordinates? There can be no difficulty here, whether with regiments in India or in Ireland; and, when there shall be a will, the way will be easily found. That errors may be fallen into, is certain; but men of honour can never be so blind as mere gold, which makes no distinction. Gold is every day ready to promote absolute mediocrity over the heads of the bravest and the best of all who cannot purchase; and would carry Sir Pumpkin Frizzle unblushingly over the head of Cæsar himself were the world's conqueror to appear as a candidate for promotion without money in his pocket.

11. *Spec.*—"One may have distinguished himself by some casual act of individual courage, another may shine in the management of soldiers' tempers and habits, a third may be expert at geographical knowledge of country, a fourth may have remarkable facilities for languages—very one of which qualifications constitute a claim of military merit; but how difficult, or rather impossible, would it be to weigh them fairly in the balance, and make selections against which no one shall have a cause for murmuring!"

It rarely happens in this world that any great number of men are so nearly on a level as to prevent a fair observer from discovering differences between them. At all events, every one of the qualities here enumerated gives a far higher claim to preferment than mere wealth, before which they must now all give way. It would be much better to make officers draw lots for promotion than to sell it; for then all would, at least, have an equal chance.

"Murmur" is a word not understood in military language.

12. *Spec.*—"The Service," Colonel Mitchell declares, derives no benefit from the advancement of young officers, unless they be also meritorious officers; but he never fairly explains how the meritorious are to be selected; and, till he gives us this great secret, he must not wonder that we look to the fact before us, that, as matters now stand, officers of regiments see their comrades pass over their heads by purchase with far less vexation to their feelings than if they were to see them promoted by arbitrary influence and selection under the mask of merit."

The pointing out of defects implies no necessity for suggesting the remedies. The consciousness of error must always be the first step to improvement; and, when we shall look for merit, the mode of discovering it will be easily found. No one speaks of promoting "under the mask of merit;" and I readily grant that no officer should be promoted in the same regiment over the heads of his comrades: this should not even be done by purchase.

13. *Spec.*—"To prove the danger and uncertainty of a merit system, take the case of certain naval officers, who, according to report, very recently received appointments to ships immediately on failing in their late elections. Ask the Admiralty why they gave these officers ships? They have the ready answer—'We are the judges of naval merit, and we think these officers deserve their ships.' Who can gainsay their award? But how would such merit promotion be tolerated in the Army?"

I never pretended that the system of naval promotion was well administered; but the principle is a just one, and I can comprehend no reason why the military authorities, who administer a faulty principle with so much honour and ability, should not be able to administer a just one in as creditable a manner. Will "Spectator" answer distinctly to this point? Not he, indeed—nor to any other.

14. *Spec.*—"Colonel Mitchell overlooks one circumstance, which, in its practical effect, greatly diminishes the annoyance (which, of course, no one denies) of officers purchasing over their comrades' heads—namely, the general tendency of the system to prevent the stagnation of advancement complained of by the Marines; for what officer of the Army, who is acquainted with his true interest, would not prefer entering a regiment where there were most officers likely to purchase, rather than a regiment where it is known there are few purchasers?"

This is only at present, because purchase constitutes nearly the sole road to preferment. I must here repeat what I formerly stated. On this point of the question we cannot appeal to the practice of the Artillery and Marines, because promotion goes directly through both corps; there is no transfer or exchange, and officers enter those services—particularly the Artillery—after a long course of honourable study, with the view of following the profession for life. In the Line things are different—officers are constantly changing from one regiment to another; many retire after a few years' service; others only enter the Army to pass away a few years in an agreeable manner; and in some circles the Service is looked upon as little more than a good finishing school of manners. Officers never enter the Army for the sake of purchasing—they would rather take their commissions for nothing and keep their money; but many retire for the sake of selling, and this privilege should be continued.

15. *Spec.*—"Nor does Colonel Mitchell sufficiently regard the convenience which often arises from officers retiring by the sale of their commissions, an arrangement, the want of which is much felt by our Ordnance and Marine services, but declares, with much self-satisfaction, that 'we have nothing to do with the Marines,' and that any comparative allusion to their regulations of promotion is as little to the purpose as a 'lecture on Chinese tulips.' If this is meant jocosely, there is no need of requesting readers *ut risum teneatis*: but if gravely, we venture to ask, what can it possibly be meant to convey?"

I fully agree with "Spectator" that officers should be allowed to sell their commissions; but the country should purchase them, and appoint the successors without purchase. It would ultimately be a great saving.

As to the lecture on Chinese tulips, let the reader refer to the passage and see how far it is inapplicable.

16. *Spec.*—"Colonel Mitchell is apt to introduce in his arguments one of those favourite and very novel theories for which he seems to require more vent than conversation affords him. He tells us that 'dash, daring, and confidence, are the essentials for Cavalry,' and quotes the events of the Peninsular War. Now, if the reader will look back to the various accounts of the Cavalry actions of that war, it will appear that most of the Cavalry mishaps arose from the excess of dash, daring, and confidence; and that order, steadiness, and prudence, were the points in which our Cavalry appeared wanting on the rare occasions where they were unsuccessful."

My opinion of the British Cavalry may be found in a volume of tactics, lately published; but I cannot altogether agree with what "Spectator" says here. There is a difference between dashing and dashing; there is such a thing as dashing round a square of infantry, as well as dashing at it; and the former style was occasionally resorted to when the latter should have been adopted. The cavalry, however, will do better next time; they have since received some instruction on the subject, and want not the mettle to profit by it, though it came—not from a high-crested cavalry leader—but from a plain infantry officer. Besides, what is this Guerena controversy about? No one complains of there having been too much dash or daring displayed on that occasion.

17. *Spec.*—"Colonel Mitchell argues that, because Blücher and Suwarrow were in the full vigour of their character at an advanced age, the general efficiency of an army does not much depend on youth; but surely he will not deny the fatal disasters which befell the Austrians when their veterans—Beaulieu, Alvinzi, Melas, and others of the same service, were opposed to the younger leaders who sprung from the revolution of France. Marengo was a gained battle, had not Melas, a very fine old officer, been forced to quit the field for repose of infirmities of eighty-five years. Both Beaulieu and Alvinzi had been distinguished officers in their time, and failed from bodily infirmity of age rather than any want of military knowledge."

Colonel Mitchell did not argue in this manner; he illustrated an argument by the cases of Blücher and Suwarrow—and "Spectator," unable to meet the argument, misstated it as usual—here it is. Youth in itself is no criterion of courage, energy, and activity; for we see plenty of men of whom it may be truly said that they were never young; who crawl in dull or sensual lethargy, from the cradle to the grave, without ever evincing one spark of intellect, of generous fire, or noble feeling, and who are as destitute of energy as of activity. Such men may have both money and influence, and purchase on from Lieutenant to Lieutenant-Colonel, absolutely useless for every good or great purpose; keeping better men in the background, and fit only to cast discredit on the road by which they had found their noxious way to rank and preferment.

With some men again, the brighter qualities of youth become extinct at an early age, owing, perhaps, to personal infirmities or physical causes; while, from robust health, elastic feeling, and buoyant spirits, others retain all their energy to the last stages of life. Years are a very uncertain criterion of what we sometimes term age, though I do not mean to say—as your next contributor on the subject of promotion will be sure to assert—

that Ensigns and Lieutenants should all, like Blücher and Suwarrow, be turned of seventy; but qualities must take the lead of mere youth, as well as of mere wealth.

I never heard that the officers mentioned by "Spectator" were very distinguished at any age.

18. *Spec.*—"In quoting the promotion of the Navy during the war, which enabled Nelson to rise so rapidly, Colonel Mitchell forgets that scarce a single day passed at that period without some brilliant opportunity of distinction for our young naval officers individually. Every privateer or merchantman cut out of a harbour by two or three English boats gave an occasion for positive proof of merit in the Lieutenant who led the party; and the power vested in the Admirals of foreign stations, of promoting on the spot, did really furnish an honest and fair means of rewarding skill and courage. But the moment peace was declared the Navy lost both the test and the reward which followed it, and interest became the mainspring of promotion, and has so continued."

Nelson was an Admiral when he fought the battle of the Nile, in 1798, five years after the commencement of hostilities; he could, therefore, have obtained only his flag promotion during the war, and, as this always goes by seniority, he must have been a Post-Captain of some standing when it broke out: never right, even by accident.

19. *Spec.*—"It is no small confirmation of what is here recalled to the reader, that, in one of the Duke of Wellington's despatches from Spain, he strongly represents the hardship of not being able to promote on the spot for any brilliant and skillful action of regimental officers; and every one will agree with Colonel Mitchell that, in cases of actual service before the enemy, the General of an army should have the same power of reward in his hands as is given by the rules of the naval service to an Admiral in command at sea."

I fully concur in what is here stated.

20. *Spec.*—"It is really strange that Colonel Mitchell should blind himself to the present evils of the professed merit promotion in the Navy. He thinks it is enough to say—'Who ever heard of the Navy wanting spirit?' No one ever was so silly as to say the Navy wanted spirit; but that they want a system of promotion fairer than their mock merit system now in use may be asserted without fear of contradiction."

I have repeated, over and over again, that it is only the principle on which naval promotion is granted that I uphold. How it is administered I cannot even pretend to know, though I think it has, upon the whole, produced better results than the military system. I have stated the reasons at length in this very Journal, I believe in the number for December, 1836. As to the Navy wanting spirit, would "Spectator" be so good as to look at his article in the March number of your Journal, page 331, the four first lines?

21. *Spec.*—"One of Colonel Mitchell's *vents* cannot here be passed over. He says the Navy have their weak points as well as their neighbours; but they have neither cuirassiers nor *one-handed* lancers—they have neither bear-skin caps to make them hideous nor bayonets to make them ridiculous. Now the caps are a matter of taste—though many experienced officers consider a bear-skin cap, if not too high, one of the best head-dresses for a soldier; but did those who witnessed the attacks of the French cuirassiers at Quatre Bras and Waterloo discover that they were ridiculous? Were the charges of the Polish lancers at Albuera ridiculous?"

We have been leaving promotion rapidly, and now farewell to it altogether. The caps are, no doubt, matter of taste; but there is bad taste as well as good taste in the world. How would any gentleman like to take a day's shooting in a stiff leather stock and bear-skin cap?

No one will, I suppose, find a battle-field ridiculous, for the subject is too mournful; but any one may be allowed to find the arms and appointments of the troops ridiculous, when ill adapted to the duties the soldier has to perform. The battle of Vimeira was certainly not ridiculous, but

most people will now think that the pig-tails still worn by the soldiers on that occasion were so in some slight degree.

22 *Spec*.—"As to the ridicule of bayonets, it would be hardly credible to find any officer who has served with British Infantry venturing such a remark, had not Colonel Mitchell thrust into his History of Wallenstein the following paragraph on a subject about which he apparently desires to challenge discussion on every opportunity—"What will posterity think of our bayonets? Will they ever believe that such rickety zigzags were ever meant to be used in mortal combat? And what idea must future generations form of the historians and despatch-writers who have gravely ascribed victories to such weapons. What again must be deemed of the military intelligence of an age which could tolerate the tactical puerilities founded on the presumed use of a toy which has been brandished with bombastic fierceness for upwards of a century, and has never yet in fair and manly fight inflicted a single wound on mortal man?"

Where and when was the bayonet ever used in combat as a weapon of war?

23 *Spec*.—"To argue the bayonet question with one who thus treats the historians and despatch-writers (which last can only mean the Generals in command of armies during the most warlike century we know of) would be idle."

A short way of settling the matter, no doubt, why not rather tell us where a bayonet contest took place. Oh, at Busaco, says "Spectator," and quotes a private letter, written by General Picton from Torres Vedras. In the last number of the United Service Journal, at page 82, the reader will find a letter from the late Sir T. Picton, dated from Torres Vedras, after the battle of Busaco, in which he says, speaking of the enemy's attack on his division, "I had the good fortune to repulse him with great slaughter in four different attempts to penetrate my line, which were all repelled with the bayonet."

Now, does "Spectator" really think that General Picton intended, by this common place phrase, to say that any fighting had actually taken place with the bayonet? I repeat the appeal formerly addressed to the officers of the Army, and ask the most experienced whether they ever witnessed a bayonet contest? Did they ever, in field or breach, on plain or rumpart, behold men thrust and counterthrust at each other with their bayonets? That, in some scrambling attack of works, or some hasty flight out of works or villages, a soldier may perhaps have been killed or wounded with a bayonet is possible, though even that is not very probable; but no one has yet answered to the former appeal, and told us when an actual bayonet combat took place.

There are hundreds of officers living who were present in the most sanguinary battles of the last war—the fiercest, perhaps, ever waged by men—so that witnesses cannot be wanting to attest the execution done by the bayonet, if it was ever used as an efficient weapon. Till their evidence is given against me, I must beg to retain my opinion, notwithstanding "Spectator's" astonishment. Colonel Napier has brought the History of the Peninsular War down to the battle of Vittoria, and never even mentions a bayonet contest.

24 *Spec*.—"But it may be permitted to observe to the reader, that, setting aside the numerous occasions where the despatch-writers of the Peninsular War alluded to the success of the bayonet, the very recent attack and defeat of the American rebels and desperadoes at Pelic Island by Captain Brown gave a striking instance of the value of the bayonet, the spirited use of which saved him and his gallant detachment from being destroyed by the distant fire of a far superior force. Even this small but very creditable affair seems sufficient to refute Colonel Mitchell's assertion, at page 105 of his History of Wallenstein, that no manly contest takes place between modern infantry. Everything is effected by distant firing. Now, Captain Brown proved the reverse by engaging in a manly contest with the bayonet, which prevented his destruction by distant firing."

As to the despatch-writers of the Peninsular War, I never said one

single word about them, and for the best of all reasons—I do not know that any one of them ever ascribed victory to a bayonet contest. If they said that the enemy fled on being charged, they only spoke the truth, the only language that such men can speak. The phrase means, as every body knows, that one party rushed forward, and that the other ran away.

I fear that this passage, which had no business in a discussion on promotion by purchase, and in which the words *Peninsular despatch-writers* are printed in italics, was not introduced for the most amiable purpose. It is enough to signalise the conduct.

I have said something of this affair of Pele Island myself, and, as there is ever a pleasure in repeating a tribute of praise paid to the conduct of brave and gallant men, shall reprint it. The passage, with some remarks on American neutrality, found its way into page 125 of your number for May. Here it is:—

“The instant resolution, the night march over ice and snow, the immediate onset, and the total dispersion of the brigands, were all in the very best style.”

I see no mention made of a bayonet *contest* in Colonel Maitland's despatch.

25. *Spec.*—“In Colonel Mitchell's ‘Wallenstein,’ a work of much interest and merit (though he has thought proper to disfigure it with extraneous and inapplicable matter, in order to give vent to his peculiar theories), there is another passage which he must not be surprised to see brought forward here, to show what an arbitrary tone he assumes, and what utter contempt of general opinion he displays. Speaking of Napoleon, he gravely declares the ‘insignificance of his military talents.’ Now, can Colonel Mitchell produce one single military man of distinction, either of those who served under Napoleon or against him, who will admit this wild, desultory, unsupported opinion, that Napoleon's military talents were insignificant?”

When a man sits down to write a book, it is generally for the purpose of expressing his own opinions, rather than those of others. But it does not follow, except in the logic of “Spectator,” that to entertain and express special opinions on any subject, implies the assumption of an arbitrary tone, or a contempt for the opinions of others. In politics, ethics, philosophy, religion, we constantly find men varying in opinion, without necessarily entertaining any contempt for those who differ from them. “Spectator” is, I believe, a Whig, but it does not follow that he entertains any contempt for the opinion of the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel. Is it right, Mr. Editor, that I should be constantly forced to explain such self-evident propositions in order to expose the feebleness of your correspondents? Besides, what has this to do with promotion by purchase?

As to the opinion of the world again; any one in the slightest degree acquainted with history is well aware that it has often proved a foolish one in the end. To illustrate the trifling question before us by well-known instances:—the Athenian who is now allowed to have been

“The earth's perfection of all mental beauty,
And personification of all virtue,”

was condemned to death for the opinions he entertained; Columbus was threatened with a persecution for heresy, because he proposed to discover the new world; and a conclave of Cardinals sent Galileo to prison for asserting that the earth went round the sun, at the very time when our merry little globe was twinging their eminences along in total disregard of their opinion that it ought to stand still. Thirty years have not elapsed since Bülow died in prison, for publishing military opinions now held in general honour, while the men who persecuted him to death are only known by the light which his name casts on the infamy of their conduct.

In regard to my estimate of Napoleon, which has, of course, nothing to do with the question of purchase, there were proofs brought forward to support it, even in the pages of your own Journal. Some of these have since been reprinted in a recent volume on tactics, and they should have

been answered before my opinion was so cavalierly denounced as "wild, desultory, and unsupported." But the defenders of the purchasing system have their own style of logic, and well that it is so, for, with ordinary logic, not a single argument can be maintained in its favour.

As to the doctrines "Spectator" taunts me with upholding, why should I not advocate them if I believe them to be just? Is the cause of Mammon the only one which it is allowable to defend? I think that men intended for war should be provided with efficient weapons, trained to the use of arms, and taught to fight; that the long, tiring, and dangerous duties of the soldier should be properly rewarded; that his condition should be improved, and his station raised in society—not merely with a view to economy, but for the sake of humanity also. I further think that, in a profession which confers upon officers almost boundless sway over the happiness and fortunes of their subordinates, chivalrous feelings, high conduct, talents, and acquirements, should take the lead both of birth and wealth. These are, I suppose, what "Spectator" means by my doctrines, nor am I ashamed to own them. They have been honoured with some attention, and, I doubt not, will ultimately find favour, even though they should happen to be opposed by the eloquent pen of a Lieutenant-General.

26 *Spec*—"It would tire the reader to follow Colonel Mitchell through pages of declamation such as the '*worship of mammon and essence of tuft-hunting*' not even leaving out the devil himself, for he talks of Satan taking notes with a smile."

I think the passage very much to the purpose. Can "Spectator" show that it is not? As to the devil here mentioned, he belongs to Professor Poison, I only borrowed him for the occasion. But if, as Dr. Johnson says, his Satanic Majesty really was the first Whig, I think "Spectator" might, in common gratitude, have shown him a little more respect, and made at least a bow in passing.

27 *Spec*—"But it will be enough again to display the general spirit of his reasoning by another quotation from his Wallenstein. At page 286, Colonel Mitchell says—'In the English service no one speaks in favour of the soldiers, and promotion is sold for money, or given according to the interests of the parties, and always as an inevitable consequence of such a system, with a perfect disregard to merit.'"

What influential voices, and to those only we can allude, speak so loudly in favour of the soldiers? The late Lord Melville, when a Minister of the Crown, declared in Parliament that the greatest blackguards made the best soldiers, and such a man was not likely to utter sentiments at variance with those entertained by the Government of which he formed so influential a part. The account of British soldiers, given to Bonaparte, when at Elba, by a British General who had risen to rank and distinction during the Peninsular War, will be familiar to most readers, for the harsh terms in which he denounced them, as destitute of every feeling of honour, and fit only to be governed by the lash, were often enough cast up to us. And I put it to any fair and unbiased officer, whether this opinion was not a very general one? Would any man of high rank have spoken so under the circumstances of the case, had he stood alone in this view of the matter? The proofs that any voice has been raised in favour of the soldiers are rather curious. Since the conclusion of the war—the most glorious and triumphant ever carried on by a nation—the pensions have been reduced by one half. The extra penny a day, given after seven years' service, has been taken away to be made the reward of good conduct, as if any man could serve for seven years in the ranks as a soldier, and not deserve such a wretched addition to his pittance. Though last, not least, the very nation which, by the actions of these soldiers, had been raised to the highest pinnacle of greatness and power, bought up at an under price, at a few months' purchase, the pensions granted to these poor men for their matchless conduct and gallantry, and then sent them to end their days in the forests of Canada as best they might. And yet here we

have the most lively amazement expressed at my ignorance of the earth-shaking voices which have been raised in favour of the soldiers.

That the authorities wish well to the good cause cannot be denied, but have they power and influential voices? Did they support the 'Canada' scheme, and the reduction of the pensions? A few private individuals may, no doubt, have advocated the cause of the troops. In my humble way I have done so myself, ever since chance made me an occasional writer in periodicals, and able hands have since followed my example; but the country has not yet heard a loud, powerful, and influential voice raised in their favour.

As to promotion, again, "Spectator" tells us himself, when defending the system of purchase (see quotations 10 and 11), that it cannot be given according to merit, and here, when he thinks that he can make out an accusation against the present writer, he would have us believe that *it is* given according to merit. This style of reasoning need not surprise us. It is the only style we are used to from the upholders of the system of purchase.

28. *Spec.*—"No one speaks in favour of the soldiers! If the evidence before the House of Commons Committee be of any value, it would appear that a general solicitude is incessantly exercised by regimental officers for the welfare of the soldiers, and that the authorities take every possible occasion of attending to regimental recommendations, by appointing sergeants to those commissions of Adjutant, Quarter-master and Riding-master, for which they are most fitted by habit and education, and to which they look forward as their reward. (An Colonel Mitchell sincerely disclaim being an agitator, when he publishes such sentences as these—*In the English service no one speaks for the soldiers*, and that, as to officers, *promotion is always given with a perfect disregard to merit*."

What parliamentary committee did anything for the soldier? It sounds mighty well to appeal to such committees, but what results did the voices which "Spectator" says they raised, ever produce? Lord Ebrington's famous committee, of which I gave some account at the time, diminished the rewards given to old officers; nobly pretending that it was abolishing sinecures! Is this the committee of which "Spectator" boasts?

Of the honourable solicitude entertained by regimental officers for the welfare of their soldiers we need not be informed; we knew it even before "Spectator's" last article had told us what infallible specifics drill and orderly duty were for raising the genius and mending the hearts of all who had passed duly along the Adjutant's roster; but power, and solicitude are, nevertheless, very different things.

But soldiers may really become Adjutants, Riding-masters, and Quarter-masters! "Visions of glory spare our aching sight." There are three situations in a regiment of cavalry, and two in a regiment of infantry, to which the three or four hundred men of the first, and six or eight hundred men of the second, may aspire every ten or twenty years, there being, of course, several hundred good and deserving soldiers in each regiment, who are totally unfit for such situations, even if they could obtain them. We shall be told in the end that the soldier's pay is given him out of pure generosity, that it is a noble gift which he owes solely to the benevolent sympathy of some modern "friend of humanity."

As to my being an agitator, "Spectator" has himself refuted one of the grounds on which the courteous charge is founded: Colonel Napier shall presently answer the other. Had I been disposed to deal in epithets, "Spectator's" mode of reasoning would have furnished me with ample opportunities for applying them; but he shall have all the honour and glory of the practice to himself.

And now for the historian. In the tale of Griffone, published since this paper was first prepared for press, Colonel Napier has the following passage.—"Oh, great and glorious were the deeds, and high and generous were the aspirations, of the British soldiers who fought in the Peninsula.

But they have no chronicler to record their individual exploits—no impassioned writer to make known their lofty sentiments—none to defend them from the oft-repeated, the foul, the false charge of brutishness.” (On this point I beg to claim exception: I have always used my humble efforts to defend them). “ Their blood has drenched the earth, their bones whiten the hills of every country on the surface of the globe. Their merits are forgotten; and the survivors wander, for the most part indigent and neglected, or insulted by those who wallow in wealth, protected by the valour of the now despised veteran. To the God of Armies he must look for sympathy and help—all other is denied him.”

Nobly written, by Jove! though there is not a word about the mighty voices raised in Parliamentary Committees: but, leaving the Colonel and “Spectator” to settle the point between them, I have yet to learn by what right any one can apply to an adversary the term “agitator” on the strength of two sentences,—or of two hundred, had they been found,—arraigning public views of military matters, and copied from an historical work totally foreign to the present question. A few pages back your correspondent doubted whether I could justly complain of having been treated with a want of courtesy in this discussion, and seemed not to understand my former allusion to the inquisition and the stake; he has now, we may presume, removed his own doubts as to the accuracy of the first assertion, as completely as he illustrated the truth of the second. The words quoted from Wallenstein may, however, be worth some notice, if only to show how easily poor “Spectator” is astonished, and how liberal he is of his points of admiration! But, in the mean time—

“Where, oh! where the Devil is the *rint*?”

29. *Spec.*—“He quotes the case of an officer of cavalry (Captain White, of the 13th Dragoons), who was, unhappily, killed before he had received promotion for a notoriously gallant action. Here was, no doubt, a case where the General in command should have had the power of instant reward allowed to every Admiral on service; however, Captain White’s death occurred within two years of the action in which he distinguished himself, and it is hard to assert that his claims would never have been attended to had he lived longer, especially as the service has, at this moment, the satisfaction of seeing in command of regiments so many cavalry officers who served with credit in the Peninsula.”

Who “asserted that his claims would never have been attended to?” and what is the object of thus constantly distorting quotations?

That he might have been promoted in time is possible—nay, probable; his slow promotion in time of war, and after he had distinguished himself, was brought forward to be contrasted with the rapid promotion, in time of peace, of young officers who had both money and interest, Captain White having only money and merit. The object was to show that purchase offers no protection against patronage, as its supporters so gratuitously assert.

30. *Spec.*—“For instance, the 2nd Dragoon Guards, 4th Dragoon Guards, 5th Dragoon Guards, Carbineers, 7th Dragoon Guards, 12th Lancers, 14th Light Dragoons, 15th Hussars, not one of whom is supposed to be either rich, or possessed of any interest beyond his claim on the score of meritorious service.”

Why, this is absolutely prodigious! After such a war, after countless deeds of heroism had been performed by all ranks, here we have eight officers of acknowledged merit really mentioned as having attained the command of cavalry regiments! There are so many distinguished men in the Army, that a mere raffle for cavalry corps would have brought forward as many as are here enumerated. I have every respect for the gentlemen alluded to, but two of them were at one time considered to have very high influence, which could not, indeed, have been better employed than in forwarding the promotion of such brave and gallant men; and others were certainly looked upon as purchasing officers. In appealing to meritorious individuals, so many of whom are to be found in all ranks of the Army,

the defenders of the system have, of course, a great advantage over its opponents, for the latter cannot, except in the most extreme cases, allude to the incapables.

31. *Spec.*—The proportion of officers who have risen to command of regiments by merit in the infantry is in the same proportion. How then is it possible that any one who really knows the present condition of our Army, can, in respect of the manner in which it is officered, agree with Colonel Mitchell, that promotion is always given either with *perfect disregard to merit, or with disregard of the security of the empire and efficiency of the service.*"

As there is no absolute inquisition to exclude merit, distinguished and deserving officers will, of course, rise to the command of regiments by the aid of wealth, influence, chance, and service, as well as others; but, while gold has the casting voice, they can hardly rise by merit. The proofs need not be repeated, as "*Spectator*" has told us (quotations 10, 11) that merit cannot be discovered; so that promotion must of necessity be given with a disregard to it: he goes much farther than I do; for I believe that it is only the system of purchase which prevents talent from being honoured and brought forward.

To the high merits and efficiency of the Army I have not been slow in rendering every justice, and even "*Spectator*" knows that the proofs are at hand, were I disposed to quote them. His own name might, perhaps, be found in some trifles formerly written, and there was, in truth, more pleasure in speaking of him as a soldier, bold, and of renown, than in exposing his unhappy logic. As to the Army, again, it must be recollected that the troops may be in a high and honourable state of efficiency, and be yet very far below the standard of excellence, to which, from their qualities and composition, they might be raised by a better system of general organization.

We have already seen, by "*Spectator's*" own admission, that promotion is directed by gold, and not by merit; and plain men will, of course, believe that every step of preferment given to mediocrity, at the expense of talent, must, to a certain extent, detract from the efficiency of the service, and from the strength of that Army on which the security of the empire is so mainly dependant. Neither titles nor marks of admiration are likely to alter the case, imposing as they may appear.

As I have quoted the whole of "*Spectator's*" paper,—which, indeed, is the only way with such writers,—the reader will see how much of it touches on the system of purchase. It will be evident enough that the extracts from Wallenstein, opinions of tactics, Napoleon, &c. &c., tend in nothing to support the practice of selling military rank; they seem only brought in with the laudable view of making out a charge against the present writer, who is politely termed an "*agitator*," as if calling him names—the usual resource of all who cannot reason—could weaken, by the value of a single word, letter, or comma, the arguments brought forward against the system of promotion by purchase. Had my writings and opinions been under examination; had the article in your Journal been entitled an inquiry into the views expressed in the trifles I may, at times, have given to the public,—then it might have been fair to have ransacked works totally foreign to the present purpose; for in that case there are other passages which could not have been overlooked; and several articles, printed, for instance, in your own Magazine, during the years of our great political excitement, and circulated with honourable notice by the conservative press (owing, I suppose, to their agitating tendency), must also have been brought into view, and must have furnished their *quota* of evidence towards the estimate which was to be formed of the author. This would have been fair dealing; but fairness is not, it seems, to be expected from the upholders of the system of purchase; for the present, therefore, I leave them in their glory.

The practice of buying military rank brings no one forward who, if de-

serving of promotion, could not be advanced without purchase; but it necessarily keeps all those, comparatively, in the back ground, who, however meritorious, happen to be destitute of wealth. It thus deprives the country of a proportion of the military talent that could be rendered available for the service of the State; and all know cases where talent has, occasionally, been wanted. As yet the system seems at variance with all the principles that men ever acknowledge as the guides of their conduct; for it sells for money, and to mere mediocrity perhaps, that boundless sway over the fortunes, happiness, and, as it may be, even the lives of soldiers, which by every known interpretation of Christian commandments should only be given to the highest discoverable merit.

Where, then, let us ask, are the superior grounds on which the system can be defended?

I am, Mr. Editor, your most obedient

J. MITCHELL,
Lieut.-Colonel.

Edinburgh, June, 1838.

Colonel Lightfoot and Major Mackie in reply to Sir John Cameron.

MR. EDITOR,—When, in answer to an application from Major Mackie, I made the communication to him which appeared in your Number for the month of May, nothing was farther from my intention than to involve myself in a controversy on the subject of it. My object was simply to give such a statement of facts as might enable your military readers to form a just conception of the nature of the action at Busaco, as far as the right brigade of the third division was concerned. I had no desire whatever to assume any merit for that brigade beyond what had hitherto been admitted to belong to it; nor had I any intention to detract from the merit to which any other might, legitimately, lay claim. On the contrary, I have never, on any occasion, spoken of the battle of Busaco, without mentioning, expressly, the very opportune arrival of the fifth division: and I did so from considering the arrival of that division in the position during the engagement as a masterpiece of military arrangement on the part of the Commander-in-Chief, and of talent on the part of the General who executed it; as an arrangement, both in its plan and execution, precisely similar to the famous junction of Lord Hill with the Duke, at Avila, on the retreat from Burgos.

But, if I mistake not, this controversy arose out of an assertion in Colonel Napier's History, founded on the authority of Sir John Cameron and Colonel Waller, that the enemy's column had established itself on the summit of the Sierra, and, wheeling to the right, was about to sweep the whole position. Such, I believe, was the original ground of controversy; but which now being given up, I cannot see why the discussion should be continued. It is evident that it may be continued interminably by shifting, as has been done, the point in dispute, or by seizing on particular expressions which have little or no bearing on it.

It seemed to be the object of Sir John Cameron's first letter to throw a censure, at least by implication, on the 3rd Division, as though it had not done all that it had received credit for; that, in reality, the credit belonged to the 5th Division, &c. &c. But the case is by no means uncommon in which troops that have borne the whole brunt of an attack, and have been overpowered by numbers, have suddenly found the scale turned in their favour by the mere appearance of a powerful reinforcement. Yet we have never heard that that reinforcement has appropriated to itself the honours of the day; and certainly, if the honours of the day of Busaco belong to the 5th Division, they were very cheaply won.

To show, however, that I have no desire to detract from the importance of the service rendered by the 5th Division on the above-mentioned occasion, I have called the arrival of it "a very opportune event;" nor have I

any wish to detract from the merit of the 9th Regiment on its charge, or (if Sir John Cameron prefers it) on "the manner in which it was brought up to its work;" for the 3rd Division can afford to do full justice to all, and need not seek to establish a name on the merits of others. But I have affirmed that that which mainly struck terror into the enemy was the appearance of a grand reinforcement, which induced him, without further contest, to abandon the enterprise. Certainly I have given no occasion to form the conclusion that "the enemy fled from their own shadows," nor can I now enter into the wit of the remark. I supposed the 5th Division to have been an object of more rational alarm than a mere "shadow," even considered abstractedly from the 9th Regiment, by which it was so gallantly led.

But Sir J. Cameron demands whether General Picton's "right," or "right centre," which he seems to consider the same thing, was or was not exposed," &c. &c. I apprehend that what is meant by the flank, or any other point of a position, being exposed, is, that it is uncovered, and, consequently, open to the enterprises of an enemy. Every part of a position may be exposed to attack, and the troops that occupy it may be overpowered by numbers, but such is not the military sense of the term; yet I know of no other sense in which General Picton's position could be said to be "exposed," at least beyond what was unavoidable, from the extent of the ground, and the insufficiency of the force with which it had to be defended.

Again, "turning an enemy's position, and 'piercing' it," are not exactly the same thing; nor could the momentary possession of the ridge be called "piercing the position, and cleaving it as with a wedge," since the communication with the flanks was still uninterrupted; nor was the enemy ever in possession of the ground originally occupied by the brigade behind the ridge.

But, Sir John Cameron having affected to play upon one or two of my expressions, I think it necessary, before I proceed farther into the merits of this controversy, to explain the sense in which I used them. Thus, when I said that the enemy "took little notice of us" in our flank attack, I meant that, in the apparent expectation of quickly attaining the summit of the Sierra, *he did not make any new disposition* against it; and, when I spoke of a fire "by no means ineffectual," my obvious meaning was, that it was *the reverse*; for I had had opportunities of knowing the effect of it, as well from the testimony of a serjeant who was taken prisoner, as from my own observation. This kind of bickering, however, is little calculated to afford any elucidation of the points in dispute for the information of your readers.

But, since my letter appeared in your Journal, a near relative of mine, with whom I was in correspondence from the Peninsula, and who, unknown to me, appears to have preserved such of my letters as related to actions in which I was personally engaged, has put these letters into my hands; and among them is one giving the details of the battle of Busaco, dated Pombal, October 1, 1810, only four days after the action. Since, therefore, I have no other object, in the present correspondence, than to give such a clear and intelligible statement of the circumstances of the action as may be deemed satisfactory to your readers, I will avail myself of this letter (though at the risk of exposing myself to the charge of former inaccuracy) to correct certain errors, into which it appears I have fallen, relative to the last attack on the centre.

These errors relate, first, to the time of the attack, which, it appears, was, as Sir J. Cameron justly considers it, much earlier than I have stated; secondly, to the amount of the force led down to the attack on the flank of the column, which was more considerable than I have represented, and in which attack it appears that one of the battalions of the 8th Portuguese co-operated; thirdly, to the fact of Major Smith's death, which, though it

happened in the manner, did not happen at the time I have stated, but in a previous attack on the same point.

After having detailed the circumstances of the attack on our left precisely as those circumstances are related in my letter to Major Mackie, which appeared in your Number for May, the letter from Pombal goes on to describe those of the central attack in the following terms:—

"I had scarcely withdrawn my four companies when a fresh column was seen ascending the hill, about — yards on our right (the figures appear to have been torn off with the seal). At this time I had been joined by the whole of the 45th Regiment, under Colonel Meade. The Second Major had been killed, heading the light companies of the 88th and 74th Regiments, and I was now second in command of the 45th, my senior Captain being away with the light company. Colonel Meade being in conversation with General Spencer at some distance from the brow of the hill, and neither of them seeing the column which was fast approaching to the summit of the hill, I ran to the Colonel, and, telling him of it, asked him, at the same time, if I should take my detachment, and throw in a fire on the enemy's flank; which he instantly acceding to, I led them forward, and, placing them on a favourable site opposite to the flank of the column, I ordered them to commence firing. Being joined by Colonel Meade with the remainder of the regiment, the whole now poured their fire with great effect into the midst of the column, which fire was continued for about ten minutes, the 8th Portuguese Regiment (I suppose the same battalion that had previously come to the support of the left) also doing the same after our example.

"At length, General Leith, having come up from the right, charged the enemy in front, and the column went to the right about. Down it descended, sullenly and slow (not, therefore, as I before stated), pursued by us with shouts; but, having followed them to nearly the bottom of the Sierra, we again withdrew our troops, and resumed our original position.

"The Colonel, who was on horseback in the rear of the line all the time, now came up to me, and expressed his satisfaction," &c. &c.

Now, Mr. Editor, by means of this letter, together with the report made by General Picton of the battle to Lord Wellington, which report I find in Robinson's Life of General Picton, I doubt not but we shall be able to come at the exact circumstances of the action; for his report appears to be faithfully correct, though not sufficiently detailed to show how the different corps were engaged. From the General's report it appears that there were four attacks on his position. He confines himself, however, to a description of three of them, viz., that on the right, and two on the centre, all which fell under his own eye, he appearing to have been too much occupied with the two first of these to know anything of that which was directed against his left, which was, besides, under the eye of the Commander-in-Chief himself, and therefore any report from him was unnecessary. With respect to that, therefore, he frankly resigns all claim to the honour with which it was met, in favour of the troops engaged.

From this report it seems that the attack on his right, and the first attack on his centre, were simultaneous with the attack on his left, which accounts for the fact that they were both unknown to me at the time; for though facing, as my position did, to the right flank, I could see nothing beyond the clouds of smoke that rose in my front; and, had it been otherwise, I was too much occupied with my own affairs to regard what was doing elsewhere.

The attack on the right, the General says, was repulsed by Colonel Williams at the head of the light troops (viz. his own companies of the 60th Regiment attached to the Division, and the light company of the 45th Regiment, to which we may add a battalion company of the 45th detached to their support under Lieutenant Urquhart, who was killed on that occasion), the 74th Regiment, and the 21st Portuguese, the latter

attacking the front, whilst the former attacked the flank of the column; and I take this opportunity of pointing to the fact, that the application of Colonel Williams's force to the flank of the column is mentioned by the General with special approbation.

This affair being decided, the report goes on to state that General Picton rode off to join the four companies of the 45th and the 88th Regiments, which were engaged on the left in an apparently unequal contest, but was stopped about the centre of his position, by finding that the light companies of the 88th and 74th Regiments, which had been originally placed in front with the light troops, had been driven over the ridge in some disorder, and that the enemy was actually in possession of a rocky point on the summit of the Sierra, firing down upon them, that, with some difficulty, he rallied them, with the assistance of Major Smith, who had joined him for that purpose, and the battalion of the 8th Portuguese, commanded by Major Birmingham, being brought up, he succeeded in driving the enemy, with the bayonet, down the hill to their original position. It was on this occasion that Major Smith was killed, as he rode in front of the light companies, waving his hat over his head, and animating the men both by his words and by his example; to which the General principally imputes his success.

It appears further from the report, that, when the last attack took place, which the General calls a feeble one (I suppose, inasmuch as it was an insulated one, whereas the former was general along the whole line, on the right, on the centre, and on the left simultaneously), the General was personally on the right, on the pass of St Antonio, and, being joined by the 5th Division, instead of making any disposition, himself, with the 74th Regiment and 21st Portuguese, he desired that division to push on towards the centre, as he did not want them on the right.

At this time the enemy had the 45th, and one battalion of the 8th Portuguese, on his right flank, another battalion of the 8th Portuguese, under Major Birmingham, on his front (though in disorder), together with the 88th and 74th light companies (equally in disorder), for I must conclude that they were there, though Sir J. Cameron did not, in the hurry of his arrival, see them, for where else could they be, since their position had been, from the first, covering the centre?

There is nothing, therefore, in General Picton's report chargeable with unfairness, when he says, "the 5th Division were in time to assist the 45th, the 8th Portuguese," and, we may add, the light companies of the 74th and 88th Regiments, in repulsing the enemy. For, though the sudden appearance of the 5th Division decided the contest, yet it would be absurd to say that the troops which the General mentions did not bear the brunt of the action and sustain almost all the loss.

But to affirm that the 5th Division "saved the right brigade of the 3rd" on this occasion, or that the latter would have been "in a critical situation" if the former had not come up, is evidently going too far. For, had that division not come up, and had the enemy established his column on the top of the hill, he would still have had the 45th Regiment and the 8th Portuguese on his right flank, in readiness to charge, if necessary, and the former, at least, would have required but the word to have done it, as their comrades of the 88th Regt. had done before. Besides which, Picton might have made a disposition with the 74th Regt. on their left flank also, leaving for the moment the pass of St Antonio to the care of Colonel Williams or of General MacKinnon, with the light troops, the 21st Regiment, and Arentschildt's twelve pieces of artillery. If he did not do this, it was simply because the arrival of the 5th Division rendered it unnecessary.

But as the 5th Division did not, according to their own showing in Napier's History, pursue the enemy, but were prudently kept behind the pass, lest the position should be retaken from them, they saw nothing of these troops in front of the pass, nor of the 45th Regiment and 8th Portu-

guesse on the other side of the rocks, who were pursuing the enemy with shouts to the bottom of the hill, pouring in their fire continually upon him. They therefore concluded that they had, most miraculously, performed all the work themselves, and hence charge Picton's faithfully correct and simple narrative with falsehood, and impugn his conduct as a General, as though he had committed some gross error, or had been guilty of some glaring neglect.

Further, as the 45th Regiment, and the battalion of the 8th Portuguese, which acted with it on the flank of the column, never crossed the ridge, the importance of that circumstance in determining the position of the column will be obvious.

One more quotation from my letter from Pombal, in order to show Sir John Cameron that there was indeed "something more in the attack on the left than has yet met the public eye." The letter is continued in these words:—"To give you an idea of the sort of fire the four companies sustained, we went into the field forty strong and upwards each company, and I can now muster only eighteen men in my company: the others suffered equally, one musters only fifteen. My Lieutenant was killed," &c. &c.

To this I may add, that the whole four companies paraded afterwards, under my command, as one strong company, until an opportunity was offered, by our halt at Pombal, to equalize the companies. Finally, I might refer Sir J. Cameron to the amount of the loss sustained by the French in their attacks, as exhibited in the hospitals at Coimbra, and ask him how much of that loss was produced by the 5th Division. But I wish not to press the point further.

I have now, Mr. Editor, given all the information I am able to afford on this subject; and, therefore, must positively decline any further interference with the controversy. I am, &c.

THOS. LIGHTFOOT, Colonel.

St. Illier's, June, 1838.

The following is an extract from another communication addressed to us by Major Mackie, which the length of Colonel Lightfoot's letter precludes us from giving entire. We recommend that the controversy be suffered to rest here.—ED.

MR. EDITOR,—By a plan accurate in itself, perfectly according with facts, supported by the testimony of many eye-witnesses, have I proved, that neither in *right*, or *right centre*, was Picton's division ever turned, or even endangered, by his leaving any part exposed, or by their being opposed to numbers with whom they were not of themselves perfectly competent to cope.

It may be new to Sir John Cameron, but nevertheless is true, that the main body of the 88th Regiment never fired a shot till they closed with the enemy. I have never, Mr. Editor, professed to give a detailed account of the battle of Busaco, but have done enough to refute the statements respecting it, which were, certainly, new to the army at large, until brought forward by Sir John Cameron and the advocates of the 5th Division. I never denied that Leith repulsed a column of the enemy, but what I did and do deny is, that this repulse took place either to the *right*, or even on the *right centre*, of Picton's line of defence. I have proved that it took place at the close of the action, hours after the main attack had been repulsed, when the enemy pushed a column on the latter point as a last and dying effort, which column, overwhelming the line of skirmishers and some Portuguese, were enabled to reach the summit, but that their possession of it was merely momentary, never being there established "threatening to sweep the ridge of the Sierra." Further, I maintain that no blame can on this account attach to Picton, who must have been aware of Leith being in a position to meet this column, as we have it in Sir Thomas's

own words, that, when the arrival of Leith's division was announced to him, he "directed it to proceed to the left, having no occasion for its services at the pass." And again, as admitted by Sir John Cameron, long before the advance of the column had reached the summit General Leith was aware of its approach, and had "*placed a Staff Officer to indicate its point of ascent, that he might regulate his movements so as to intercept it.*" The result was, that, when their advance did reach the top of the ridge, finding themselves without any flanking support, and with an enemy in front and on both flanks, they fled without offering any serious resistance.

Sir Thomas Picton, with the force at his disposal, did everything that could be demanded of him. Had he left the pass of St. Antonio, the right of his position, exposed, he undoubtedly would have committed a most egregious error, and might "have cut a different figure in the Gazette to what he did that day," when it is considered, and, as was then evident, the enemy had, upon the continuation of that road, stationed a large force, with nearly the whole of their artillery, ready to launch forth the moment their infantry should be established on the heights.

When Sir John Cameron has shown how the right of Picton's division could be said to be turned, seeing, as I have formerly shown, that the brigade of Portuguese Artillery and other troops were stationed on it, and never moved from their position during the battle—when he has shown how this, or the danger of its happening, could be justly predicated of his centre, by the ascent of a column of the enemy, which merely reached, and never was established on, the heights, repulsed by the 5th, without the former division having any opportunity of joining in the attack, while in fact they were in part resting on their arms—when Sir John has got over this difficult task, it will be time to consider whether they and their Commander would have suffered in credit most by such an event occurring on the right or right centre of their line.

Till this has been accomplished, must General Picton and the 3rd Division retain the honours they so nobly earned.

WILLIAM MACKIE, late Major 88th Regt.

Army and Navy Club, July 7th, 1838.

Colonel Brotherton on some Remarks of Captain Jebb.

MR. EDITOR,—I would gladly have refrained from saying anything further in the discussion with the 3rd Dragoons, had not Captain Jebb thought proper to prolong it, although he professed to have closed it by his letter of the 23rd of March last. If his last letter were left unnoticed it might leave an erroneous impression on your readers.

Captain Jebb complains, that he is accused, without foundation, of writing in a confused manner.

I will leave others to judge whether the following sentence is not a specimen showing that the charge is not unfounded; it is extracted from his letter of the 23rd of March last:—

"Colonel Brotherton attributes this halt to have been, and continued, as he says, within a few yards of the broken troops, and to have been occasioned by the desultory fire of some French infantry."

Captain Jebb says that "the enemy fled at the approach of the 3rd Dragoons."

Captain Jebb was quite mistaken in fancying so. Such an enemy was not to be frightened by the mere inactive appearance of the 3rd Dragoons. The very slow advance of this regiment was certainly not calculated to strike terror into any enemy, much less into such an one as we had to contend with on this day. The fact was, that, the British infantry on our flank having driven back, by a most brilliant charge, the infantry upon which the enemy's cavalry depended for support, it became necessary, in consequence, for the latter to retire. Such is, at least, the view which the

Duke of Wellington took of this affair in his dispatch on the occasion, and I prefer such authority to that of Captain Jebb, who attributes the retreat of the enemy to his own regiment; though it was never even engaged.

I have now done with this futile and injudicious controversy, of which your readers must be so heartily tired, and which has already occupied too much of your time and space; and I will conclude it, by way of recapitulation, with the following queries; the answers to which will readily suggest themselves to such of your readers as have waded through this discussion.

If the 3rd Dragoons volunteered to the assistance of General Alten's brigade, "seeing the peril it was in, and that *no time was to be lost*," how came the 3rd Dragoons to advance at so slow a pace?

As it has been proved by ample testimony that both General Alten and Colonel Harvey expressed their strong disapprobation at the conduct of the 3rd Dragoons for *not* advancing on the enemy, is it probable that both these officers, so well known for their frank and unreserved dispositions, ever *intended* to express their approbation of that which they had just before, and have since, so strongly reprobated? and is it probable that General Alten ever *meant* that the 3rd Dragoons should have halted, having before and since expressed himself so displeased at their having done so?

If, as alleged, contrary to the express opinion of General Alten's Major of Brigade, the 3rd Dragoons were ever considered, during the day in question, as forming part of the brigade, and under the immediate command of the General, on arriving at the ground, how came the 3rd Dragoons to retire from the front, at a most critical moment, without orders to that effect from the General himself?

If, as alleged, it was "the overwhelming fire of a division of the enemy's infantry and artillery" that caused the 3rd Dragoons to retire, how came the loss of that regiment, from this *supposed* heavy fire, to have been so very trifling? And why has this loss been stated at so much more than it actually was according to the returns in the Gazette?

If, as alleged, Captain Jebb has abundance of testimony which he has kept back, why has he produced in this controversy none but mere hearsay evidence, with the exception of one, and that one a mere distant spectator, whereas the testimony on the other side is all that of eye-witnesses on the spot?

I now close this controversy, as far as I am concerned, unless forced again to break silence.

I remain, Mr. Editor,

Your obedient humble servant,

Cavalry Dépôt, 25th June, 1838. F. M. BROTHERTON.

N.B.—This letter was too late for publication last month.

Captain Jebb in Explanation of the Passage alluded to by Colonel Napier.

MR. EDITOR,—Colonel Napier having misconstrued a passage in my last communication to you, I beg to refer to the contest, and feel satisfied that the public will have attributed the true meaning to that passage, and have understood me, when speaking of "acting under the orders of my superior," to allude to the 18th July, 1812, and not to the correspondence to which he applies it.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

D. G. JEBB,

late Capt. 3rd Dragoons.

July 12, 1838.

Colonel Napier, on a Statement in the "The Hussar."

MR. EDITOR,—In Mr. Gleig's book, purporting to be the memoirs of a German Hussar, which I have only lately seen, I find my statement relative to a report made by a German officer to Sir A. Wellesley, the night before the Battle of Vimeiro, contradicted. The Hussar is made to say it was himself, a serjeant, who carried the report, and that there was no consternation in his manner. Mr. Gleig would do well to confine his Hussar's gossip to what he is really acquainted with. The Hussar may have made a report; but the authority for *my fact* is the Duke of Wellington, who could not have mistaken his man, because he tried, though fruitlessly, to recollect the name of the officer, and called him a Baron. I suggested the name of a German officer bearing that title, but the Duke replied that it was not him.

W. NAPIER.

The Expedition to Alexandria.

MR. EDITOR,—In some of your late Numbers are certain "Notes of an Expedition to Alexandria in 1807," concluded in the May Number, under the signature of "Miles." The confident censure and disadvantageous insinuations occurring from time to time, in these articles, coming from an unknown source, might have passed without particular notice, General Fraser's military and personal character being too well established and remembered to be affected by such reflections; but the account in the "Notes" of the first attack (so called) upon Alexandria differs materially from that given by the General in his public despatch (see Annual Register, 1807, page 665). This anonymous version of the affair, in opposition to the General's official statement, so long after his death and that of most of his contemporaries and companions in arms, together with other assertions, for which authority is wanting, will not, it is presumed, find much acceptance with the unprejudiced readers of the United Service Journal.

Your humble servant,

May 22, 1838.

F.

Colonel Warrington in reference to Major Denham's Travels.

MR. EDITOR,—In reference to Major Denham's Travels, in chap. i. page 14, I read the following:—

"Passing a small wadey and plantation of date-trees, we had soon a view of Sacknee, and were met on the plain on which it stands by the governor and principal inhabitants, accompanied by some hundreds of the country people, who all crowded round our horses, kissing our hands, and welcoming us with every appearance of sincerity and satisfaction, and in this way entered the town: the words 'Inglese, Inglese,' were repeated by a hundred voices from the crowd. This, to us, was highly satisfactory, as we were the first English travellers in Africa who had resisted the persuasion that a disguise was necessary, and who had determined to travel in our own real character as Britons and Christians, and to wear on all occasions our English dresses; *nor had we at any future period occasion to regret that we had done so.* There was here no jealousy nor distrust of us, as Christians; on the contrary, I am perfectly satisfied that our reception would have been less friendly had we assumed a character that could have been, at best, but ill supported. In trying to make ourselves appear as Mussulmans we should have been set down as real impostors."

The above was written by our friend Denham after his return, and contradicts the assertion of Major Head most thoroughly.

Your's truly,

Tripoli, 24th April, 1838.

H. WARRINGTON.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PRINCIPAL PORTS AND STATIONS.

Portsmouth, June 21,* 1838.

If your readers will refer to the Number of the Journal for April last, they will there find an account of the loss of Her Majesty's schooner *Pincher*, on the 6th March preceding, while working to windward and taken in a squall under the Isle of Wight. The wreck having been discovered to have drifted near the Owers Light, on the coast of Sussex, the officers of the dockyard were despatched to ascertain the exact spot, and prepare for weighing her. Two or three attempts were made to effect this object, but, from the extraordinary tempestuous weather which prevailed all the spring, and the situation the hull of the *Pincher* was lying in, it was found impossible to do anything until this month, when, through the great exertions and skill of Mr. Sadler, Second Master-Attendant of the dockyard, and Mr. Armstrong, Master of the *Victory*, with parties of seamen and marines, the *Pincher* was got up, and towed by a steamer into Portsmouth harbour. A coroner's inquest being subsequently held on ten of the bodies found in the wreck, the jury returned a verdict of "Found dead on board the *Pincher*, from suffocation, supposed to be caused by the upsetting of the vessel near the Owers Light."

H.M.S. *Winchester*, with the flag of Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir T. B. Capel, K.C.B., from the East Indies; the *Racer*, from the West Indies; four naval transports, *Numa*, *Parmelia*, *Hotspur*, and *Sovereign*; the *Salamander* steam-frigate, from the North coast of Spain; and the *Apollo* troop-ship, from *Quebec*, have arrived since my last communication. Vice-Admiral Sir T. Capel was relieved in the East India command on the 2nd February at Trincomalee, Rear-Admiral Sir Frederick Maitland having fortunately heard at Point de Galle that the *Winchester* was lying there, thus saving him a long voyage to Bombay, to which Presidency he was ordered to effect the relief.

The *Winchester* left Trincomalee on the 5th February, and called at the Cape of Good Hope, St. Helena, and Ascension, on her passage home. At the last island, the Vice-Admiral heard of the melancholy death of Captain Bate of the Royal Marines, who was for many years commandant of the party serving there, and had the management and charge of the Government stores on the island, and who, on all occasions, rendered every assistance to those who had need thereof, when compelled by sickness, or other cause, to resort to that spot for relief. A high and just eulogium has been bestowed to his memory. The *Winchester* remained at Spithead little more than an hour, as orders had been in the port for a considerable time, directing Sir Thos. Capel to proceed with his flag to Chatham, and there strike it, thus making a second edition of the *Thalia's* trip with Sir Patrick Campbell.

Sir Frederick Maitland was at Trincomalee when the *Winchester* quitted the East Indies, and he intended to remain there until he received despatches from Captain Hobson of the *Rattlesnake*, who, with the *Larne*, and some other vessels of the squadron, was at Ava, endeavouring to obtain some satisfactory explanation relative to the murder of a native chief in alliance with this country.

The *Numa* transport brought part of the 84th Regiment from Jamaica, to rejoin the head-quarters at Gosport. The regiment during the last two days has been moved from thence to this garrison, in the room of the 2nd Battalion of the Rifles, who have marched to London to attend the Coronation.

The *Parmelia* transport brought to England from the Mauritius part of the 29th Regiment, and some invalids from the 35th, 87th, and 91st Regi-

* The Port Correspondence having been unavoidably omitted in our last, we introduce the letters of June into our present Number.

ments and Royal Artillery. The 29th were landed, and, for a few days, occupied Cumberland Fort, until the Messenger steamer was ready to take them to Plymouth to join the head-quarters in that garrison.

The Salamander steam-frigate came from St. Sebastian, and merely put into Spithead to land letters, &c., being on her way to Woolwich to have new boilers, and, when they are fitted, will most probably resume her station on the north coast of Spain. She was followed from thence a day or two after by the Pantaloon brig, tender to the Royal George yacht, which, with the Modeste, was despatched in a great hurry to take out some supernumerary marines for Lord John Hay's squadron, and public vessels to be put on board the Columbia steamer, and to be taken by her to the West Indies. Having succeeded in getting hold of the Columbia, and giving the despatches to her commander, the Pantaloon returned to Portsmouth. The Modeste is to remain out for a short time longer.

The Apollo troop-ship, after a quick run to Quebec with 600 of the Grenadier Guards, and a more expeditious voyage home empty, is in the harbour fitting for further service. The two battalions of Guards, consisting of the 2nd Battalion of the Grenadier and 2nd Battalion of the Coldstream, were, as your readers may remember, embarked in the Apollo and Inconstant, and Edinburgh and Atholl. Their departure was at different periods, varying from three to ten days of each other. They were not able to get up the St. Lawrence until the first week in May, in consequence of the ice. The Inconstant took the lead, and the men from the four ships were all landed on the 9th May without a single casualty, and in high spirits. On the 12th May, the Malabar, 74, arrived from Cork with the 71st Regiment. The Hastings, Dee, steamer, and Charybdis, brig, had not arrived in the St. Lawrence when the Apollo quitted, which was on the 17th May; but the Hastings was spoken on the 4th May, near the banks of Newfoundland.

You may have heard that a waterman was shot at and wounded by a sentry on board H.M. ship Rainbow, while she was preparing to be paid off in this harbour. It is said the man was attempting to smuggle liquor, for the third time, into her, or else entice some of her crew to desert. The transaction occurring after sunset, and not heeding, or defying the repeated warnings given to keep off the ship, he was fired at, and unluckily hit near the vitals. The fellow has, however, recovered, and, it is to be hoped, will take experience from this escape, and not endeavour to force past a sentry again, particularly after the watch is set. The marine has been committed by the magistrates to Winchester gaol, to take his trial at the next assizes under Lord Ellenborough's act of wilfully cutting and maiming; but as he is to be defended by the agent for the Solicitor of the Admiralty, by order of their Lordships, there is little doubt of his acquittal, he being at the time in the execution of his orders.

The Board of Admiralty, who are always on the alternative plan, have made another arrangement relative to the seamen gunners who enter and go through the course of gunnery instruction on board H.M. ship Excellent. Being, as they profess, desirous of giving that description of men every encouragement possible, their Lordships have ordered a small increase to the pay to each, and directed that in future no seamen gunners, or what was formerly gunner's crew, shall be entered on board a man-of-war unless they have previously gone through a complete course of instruction in that floating battery. The following are the terms on which seamen gunners are in future to be entered, and the advantages held out to them:—

"To enter for a period of five years, to be instructed as seamen gunners, for Her Majesty's Navy, and from them only Master Gunners and Gunners' Mates will be selected.

"They will also be preferred for the situation of Boatswain, if otherwise qualified, and all the ratings of petty officers will be open to them.

"On being discharged into sea-going ships, they will receive two shillings a month in addition to A.B.'s pay, or that of any higher rating which they

may hold; when their first period of five years' service expires, on producing certificates of good conduct, they will, if they re-enter immediately, be entitled to four shillings a month in addition to the pay of A.B. or any higher rating they may hold; and at the end of their second period of service, they will, on producing certificates, if they re-enter immediately for another period of five years, receive five shillings a month in addition to the pay of A.B. or any higher rating they may hold.

"During their first six months service in the *Excellent*, 'the men who do not allot' will receive eight shillings a month, and after that period they will be paid their full wages monthly."

The payment of wages "monthly," which in this ship, and to the crew of those in ordinary, has been done for years, is a most proper and prudent arrangement, and if it could be adopted throughout the Service, would save many an unlucky Jack from plunder.

The *Termagant*, brigantine, commanded by Lieutenant W. J. Williams, has sailed for the Cape of Good Hope, and is to be employed on the Coast of Africa, under the orders of Rear-Admiral the Hon. George Elliot. Lieutenant Napier, appointed to command the *Forester*, brig, in the room of the late Lieutenant Rosenberg, went out to join her.

The *Arrow*, Ketch, went yesterday to South America, to Rio Janeiro in the first place, with despatches. Her commander, Lieut. B. J. Sullivan, is afterwards to be employed in surveying the different creeks and harbours of the Falkland Islands. This officer has been on the South American and Brazilian coast before, and was an able surveyor under that distinguished officer, Captain Fitzroy, of the *Beagle*, and he is, therefore, well qualified for the work he is about to undertake. These two vessels are all that have gone from hence on foreign service since my last.

The *Herald*, 26, formerly the diplomatic yacht, is fitting for the East Indies. The *Seaflower*, cutter, is also in harbour; the latter belongs to the port command, and is generally employed about the islands of Jersey and Guernsey to look after the oyster fishery. She is here to have some repairs.

The *Indus*, an 80-gun ship, after being on the stocks upwards of fifteen years, is ordered to be completed, and in consequence two or three divisions of shipwrights have been put on her, it being intended that she should be launched by the end of the year. She is constructed of teak; her dimensions you shall have next month; it is thought she requires beam. The *Imaum*, 74, a present from his Highness of Muscat, is in dock, to be inspected and reported on. She is also of teak, and it is very probable the two ships will be floated together. The *Imaum* has part of her fastenings of iron, otherwise she may prove a desirable vessel.

With respect to the military movements in the garrison, they are comprised as follows. The 84th Regiment has taken the place of the second battalion of Rifles, and we have in addition to them, the depot of the 5th, 47th, and 90th. At Gosport there is the depot of the 89th Regiment. The three first depôts are, however, in daily expectation of their route to Dublin, Jersey, and Chatham, and are to be relieved by three others, viz., 18th, 2nd battalion of 60th, and 67th. The Rifles finally quitted on Tuesday.

The half-yearly inspection of the battalion of marines of this division, was this month held by the Major-General of the district, Sir Thomas M'Mahon, K.C.B., attended by the Deputy Adjutant-General of the marine corps. Colonel Owen, and those officers made a most minute inspection of the barracks, infirmary, school, and all the customary matters. Sir Thomas also, went over the laboratory on Southsea Common, and witnessed the field movements of the artillery branch of the service. At the barrack inspection, as well as the one on Southsea Common, he was pleased to express his approbation, both on the ground, and in public orders; and on the following day, it being the 1st June, and selected for the occasion,

the General and his Staff, Colonel Owen, and the officers commanding corps in the garrison, honoured the officers of the division with their company at dinner, the day being the anniversary of Earl Howe's victory over the French fleet; and in which battle, Colonel Jones, the commandant of Portsmouth division, had the good fortune to be present. There have been some promotions and alterations in the corps during the month, occasioned by the death of Captain Bate, and the retirement of Captains Skinner and Jervis, which has been the cause of three officers obtaining their companies, and a similar number their rank as First-Lieutenants. The alterations are in an adjutantcy of one division, and Captain Tinklan being relieved on the coast of Spain, and appointed to command the detachment at the island of Ascension, in the room of the late Captain Bate; a very desirable billet. Two or three new commissions have been given to the sons of officers in the corps, or Navy.

The following midshipmen passed for Lieutenants in June, at the usual place, and before the usual party, the examination being conducted as heretofore:—

Mr. Robert H. Mowbray, Britannia; Mr. W. C. Grierson, Mr. W. C. Marshall, Mr. Alfred O. Hansard, Mr. John Fisher, Mr. Sutherland Mackenzie, Mr. Anthony C. C. Denny, Mr. H. Bayley, no ships; Mr. Edmund Hemsted, Russel; Mr. C. G. Glinn, Mr. C. R. Egerton, no ships; Mr. H. Phelps, Thalia.

P.S.—The Officers promoted on Admiral Sir P. Campbell and the Hon. Sir T. B. Capel striking their flags, are Lieut. Frederic Warden, late First of the Thalia; and Lieut. the Hon. J. R. Drummond, late Flag to Sir Thomas Capel.

I send you a copy of the resolutions adopted at a meeting of the mates of the squadron at Portsmouth relative to the band of the Plymouth division of marines being refused attendance at the funeral of the late Mr. Lewis, mate of the Royal Adelaide, who, unfortunately, lost his life by the Meteor steam-vessel getting foul of her. You will observe it is stated that Colonel Lewis, the Commandant, on the request being made to him, answered that "he would neither hear or think of such a thing, adding that it would be making a bad precedent." A different report of the interview and conversation is in the garrison, an officer having received a letter, in which it is asserted, that on two mates applying for the attendance of the marine band at the funeral of Mr. Lewis, the Commandant inquired if there "was not a band belonging to the Royal Adelaide, and why it was not employed?" To which answer was made that it was not sufficiently strong. Colonel Lewis then declined allowing the band to attend, stating, that if it were necessary the application ought to come from the captain of the ship. It is not customary for military bands to attend the funerals of any but commissioned officers. The business will, no doubt, be thoroughly investigated.

"Resolved,—That this meeting cannot but express their surprise and regret, that the Colonel Commandant of the Plymouth division of royal marines, should have found it necessary to refuse permission for the attendance of the band of that corps, at the funeral of their late brother officer, Mr. Lewis, of her Majesty's ship, Royal Adelaide; but hope it will not tend to disturb the harmony and good feeling which happily exists between the two branches of the Naval Service.

"Resolved,—That, the sincere and grateful thanks of this meeting in behalf of the mates of the different ships in Portsmouth harbour, be tendered to Lieut.-Colonel Simpson, and the officers of her Majesty's 29th Regiment, for their kind and handsome manner of granting the band of the Regiment to accompany the remains of the late Mr. Lewis to the grave.

"(Signed)

J. AXLMER PAYNTER, Chairman."

Portsmouth, July 26th, 1838.

Several of the ships that went to Canada with troops, horses, stores, &c., have returned since my last: the following to this port:—Edinburgh, Hastings, Pique, Apollo, Athol, Stakesby, and Elizabeth, transports.

Although the Edinburgh, Inconstant, Apollo, and Athol, with the two battalions of Guards, sailed from Spithead at different periods, and did not see each other until they arrived in the River St. Lawrence, yet they all contrived to get up to Quebec on the same day, and land their troops without a casualty. The officers of the Hastings speak in most favourable terms of Lord Durham's deportment and behaviour while on board of her, and his expression of gratification and thanks for the attention paid to him and his family during the voyage. If he is afflicted with pride and arrogance he did not exhibit any on board the Hastings. A grand ball and supper was given previous to his landing, to about four hundred of the principal persons at Quebec, the officers of the Army and Navy, &c. The Hastings having touched the ground in the River St. Lawrence, she was ordered into dock to ascertain if any damage had ensued, but no mischief was discovered, only a few sheets of copper rubbed, and she is now in the basin of the Dockyard refitting. As all the furniture, stores, plate, bedding, &c., shipped for the use of Lord Durham and his staff, have been landed, it was expected the Hastings would have been completed in men, guns, and stores for effective service. However, on Tuesday, Earl Howe, and Captain the Honourable Edward Curzon, C.B., arrived at Portsmouth to inspect the ship, and in what manner the cabins are arranged, as Her Majesty the Queen Dowager, and suite are going in her to the Mediterranean. Having been attended all over by the Admiral Superintendent and the officers of the Dockyard, and taken a plan of the present arrangements, Lord Howe and Captain Curzon returned to Bushey, and directions have been issued for the ship to be ready for Her Majesty's reception by the first week in October. It was thought she would be sent for a short period to Lisbon, but requiring new lower-deck ports, being upwards of 100 men short of complement, and the new fittings up for the illustrious passenger who is to honour them with her presence being extensive, the people of the Dockyard will have full occupation to get the ship ready by the time required. A great deal has been said and written about the decorations of the Hastings, and the enormous expense incurred therein, as well as for the provisions, stores, &c., sent on board for the use of Lord Durham and his family and suite during the voyage. The arrangements of the cabins were very good, the fittings not half so expensive as those in an American packet; the stores were of course very good and abundant, but the remains, by previous agreement, have been returned to the purveyors, and probably not any part thereof will be used again, as Her Majesty the Queen Adelaide may think proper to direct that her own purveyor shall furnish all that is required.

The plate, and a great many other matters have been for years in the Service, and used on board the Herald when a diplomatic yacht. It is but right to mention these circumstances to remove a prejudice which exists as to the outrageous charges said to have been incurred in conveying Lord Durham and his people to Quebec.

The Edinburgh having also touched, either on the ice or the ground, in the River St. Lawrence, and a slight leak having been discovered in the fore-part of the ship, she was taken in dock to ascertain the cause, but her injuries were so trifling that she was moved out again in a day or two, and is now fitting for service in the Mediterranean. Her lower-deck guns have been put in her again, and in about ten days or a fortnight she will proceed to Malta, and probably relieve the Rodney, whose period of service has expired.

The Pique was ordered home by Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Charles Paget, with important despatches from the Earl of Durham, and

on arriving at Portsmouth her Captain immediately proceeded to London with them. They are supposed to relate to the interview which Colonel the Honourable W. Grey of the 71st Regiment had, through the demand of the British Minister, Mr. Fox, with the President of the United States, respecting the outrage committed by some ruffians on the steam-vessel Sir Robert Peel. The Pique made the voyage home in twenty one days, and left at Quebec the Cornwallis, flag-ship, Malabar, Hercules, Madagascar, Andromache, Inconstant, and Pearl. The Dee had been up to Montreal with volunteer officers, seamen, and marines, to serve in the flotilla on the lakes under Captain Sandon, and then went to the West Indies. No ship in Her Majesty's Navy (not excepting the Vernon) has had so much written about her as the Pique, and if there had not been a studied system of puffing her beyond all other ships in the Service, few officers would have taken the trouble to inquire for her superiority, and finding nothing very remarkable in the ship, been led to point out her inferiority. It would have been better if the constructor and his friends had let matters remain quiet. If the Pique is not an unlucky ship, she has the name of one, and the different occurrences which take place on board of her keep up the unfavourable name. She went to Cork in the early part of the year to take a division of the 93rd Regiment to Halifax: the weather was unpropitious, and there was unnecessary hurry in getting away. After the troops had been embarked thirty-six hours, or even twenty-four, would have enabled the ship to be set to rights, the men berthed, and everything made secure for a voyage across the Atlantic in the middle of winter.

On leaving Cork it was blowing strong, and, on getting outside, it increased to a gale. The troops hardly knew their berths. The water-casks on deck not being well secured, broke adrift, and the first night a soldier was killed by falling down a hatch, and a cask of water on him. The next day matters were better arranged, but they might have been done in port. There was the same desire at Portsmouth for the troops to be sent out expeditiously, but every ship remained twenty-four hours for the men to settle down. As before said, on getting outside, a gale of wind came on, and it is believed that the boat belonging to the pilot broke adrift. Whether or not, it was not fit weather to send him on shore, and he had a trip to Halifax, and was thus enabled to render himself qualified as a pilot for that harbour. His pay of 5s. per diem would, of course, be paid by Government, and in a pecuniary point he was not a loser; but if a person with a family, they must have been in a horrid state of suspense as to the man's fate, particularly if the boat was picked up. All things went well, except the bad weather which ensued, and continued until they arrived at Halifax. In the gales of wind and heavy sea the Pique rolled awfully, but she is described to be a most safe ship; and having been in equally bad weather when the Honourable Captain Rous had her, there is nothing to say on that point. As to sails and spars being blown away, it is to be expected. The weather was dreadful, and the officers and crew were able and efficient, and little thought of the circumstances. At Halifax the crew were put to their mettle to extinguish a fire which occurred on board, and the cool and intrepid conduct of those employed on the occasion was admirable. After a short time spent at Halifax, there being no other man-of-war there, the ship took money and troops on board, and sailed from thence to Quebec. In trying to make a short cut, somewhere about Cape Breton, into the river St. Lawrence, the ice surrounded the ship, and kept her embayed for fourteen or fifteen days; and, when it cleared away, in working out she struck thrice, but did not receive much injury.

The Pique left Quebec on the 24th June, and made the voyage home in twenty-one days, having experienced very fine weather all the way home. She went into harbour on Tuesday, and, to add to her mishaps, in bringing

up the chain-cable broke short; but another anchor was promptly let go, and prevented her drifting and causing damage. These trifling circumstances, which every 'man-of-war in the service is liable to, would not have been mentioned, if, as before said, there had not been a system of magnifying the Pique above all other ships in the Navy: hence those who think otherwise make it a point to detract from her merits. There is no other motive in stating the foregoing than to enable you not to place the least reliance on anything which may be advanced to her disadvantage, more than now related. The ship is very handsome, and a fine man-of-war; but there are others equally good, and infinitely cheaper, not built by the Surveyor of the Navy, or on his plans.

The Athol troop-ship has been refitted, and on Thursday sailed for the north coast of Spain with a large supply of arms, ammunition, stores, and provisions for the use of the squadron and the battalion of Marines employed under Captain Lord John Hay and Colonel Parke. Captains Taylor and Laurie, and D. Langley, went out to join the battalion.

The Apollo troopship is in the harbour, ready for any service that may be required of her. She is expected to be sent to Ceylon. One of the transports had some invalids from the different corps in Canada, in charge of Brevet-Major Brisbane of the 34th Regiment, and she has gone with them to Chatham. The other had old stores, &c.

H.M.S. Rover, 18, Commander Charles Eden, arrived from Spithead about three weeks ago from the South American station. She left Rio Janeiro on the 14th April, and made her voyage from thence in forty-five days. She brought to England a freight of about 260,000 dollars on merchants' account. The Rover, shortly after quitting the Brazils in April, met with two slave-vessels filled with negroes, which she detained, and returned with them to Rio. One of them, it is believed, will be condemned, but the other released. The Stag frigate, with the broad pendant of Commodore Sullivan, the Alligator, 28, Captain Sir G. Bremen, destined to Torres' Straits, and the Wizard brig, were at Rio. The President, 52, with the flag of Rear-Admiral Ross, C.B., was at Callao, and about to proceed to Valparaiso. The Cleopatra, 26; Imogene, 28; and Harrier, 18, were round the Horn. The Cleopatra is the next ship expected home, and has been very successful in collecting freight. The Sparrowhawk was in the River Plate, and the Sulphur and Starling surveying the South Sea Islands. The Rover was only at Spithead a day or two to remove her specie to London, and then went to Plymouth to be paid off.

Until the return of the Hastings, Edinburgh, and Pique from Quebec, there had been very little doing in the port during the month; only one ship fitting (the Herald), and she will go to the East Indies in a few days, to relieve the Rattlesnake. The vessels coming forward are the Actæon, 28, and Orestes, 18. They are in the basin, masted, and perfectly ready for officers and men. The people of the dockyard are at work on the Indus, 80, and Revenge, 74. The former will be launched about the end of the autumn, and probably commissioned immediately. The Racer, 16; Childers, 16; Rainbow, 28; and Dublin, 60, are ordered to be taken in dock and got ready for three years' service; but there is no immediate hurry.

You had an account last month of the raising of the Pincher schooner, and other circumstances relating to her. The Admiralty having directed that all the clothing, bedding, and other private property taken out of her, should be washed and purified, and such as could be identified given up to those who established a proper claim thereto, a considerable quantity has been thus removed, and the refuse sold by public auction. Although these things have been under water three months, and are, consequently, in a very bad state, and of a miscellaneous description, such as blankets, shirts, and articles of that nature, yet, to the surprise of all who were present, 40*l.* was realised by the sale. This money is placed in the hands of the Accountant-General of the Navy, and will be

forthcoming in proper proportions to those who were kin to the men deplorably lost in the *Pincher*. If there are no claimants, the trifle will, doubtless, be sent to Greenwich Hospital.

Mr. Abbinet, the diver, has commenced his summer emersions, and been down to the *Boyne*: a large part of her quarter has been separated, and brought to Gosport, and it is said the timber is sound enough to be used for part of the works connected with the floating-bridge intended to ply between Gosport and Portsmouth, and for which an Act of Parliament has been obtained. You published a letter, a month or two back, from a gentleman connected with Lloyd's, in which the report of that Committee having objected to the measure was denied—this was simply a puff, and answered the purpose of an advertisement; there is nothing done yet but the Act of Parliament obtained; but a bill, or bills, amounting to 3300%, from the solicitors and surveyor, has been sent in: in fact, this affair may be puffed up as much as possible, but it will not answer; and those who have got shares had better sell while the opportunity offers. The landing-place at Portsmouth Point, and that on the south side of Gosport Hardway, are to be cut and carved in a cruel manner, and the public will greatly suffer thereby: at Gosport, in consequence of a high wall being intended to be erected, the property of a number of individuals on the beach will be injured to such a degree, that an injunction will be prayed from the Chancellor to stop the measure entirely: the whole affair is a job, and not required.

The grand jury at Winchester ignored the bill presented against Lieut. W. Cooper and James Adams, a Marine of the *Rainbow*, for firing at and wounding a waterman who attempted to get on board in defiance of orders. The constables and other persons concerned in the business have been greatly mortified thereby. The man shot has quite recovered, but will, no doubt, be careful how he attempts to smuggle liquor in a man-of-war again.

The late Coronation Promotion, as far as the junior branches of the Navy have been benefited thereby, has given general satisfaction: of course, there are many very much disappointed, and who have become great grumblers, considering themselves neglected on the occasion; but as the Admiralty, in reply to applications, have stated that the promotion was only intended for those who had served regularly and actively, it could not be expected that officers who have only been in guard or other ships, and always in port, would be included. On going over the list, it appears to be a very fair promotion, the greater part being either employed on foreign service or recently returned therefrom. At this port, the Lieutenants in command of the *Pantaloön* and *Seaflower*, and the First-Lieutenants of the *Excellent* and *Hastings*, have gained a step; and several Mates out of the *Britannia*, *Hastings*, *Herald*, and *Pantaloön*, made Lieutenants. It is generally reported that some other Mates at this port would have been promoted if they had not been at the public meeting convened at the George Hotel to pass certain resolutions relative to Colonel Lewis, the Commandant of the Plymouth division of Marines, refusing the attendance of the band of the corps at the funeral of one of their brother-officers, Mr. Lewis, of the *Royal Adelaide* (a copy of which proceedings was sent to you for perusal). The Admiralty called for the names of those who attended the meeting in question, and not only expressed their high disapprobation of the whole affair, but sent down a severe reprimand to the party, and it is generally believed that, for the present, some have had their promotion suspended for the part they took. It is to be hoped the Admiralty will look over the affair, now the parties see the folly of their way, as there is no fear of a repetition of such a public meeting of officers of that class again, now they are aware of the sentiments of the Admiralty on the late occasion. The Board have written to Colonel Lewis in a most satisfactory manner, and stated that the Mates were deeply sensible of their error.

There is little more for me to state. The troops in garrison have not been moved since the second battalion of the Rifles marched to London. The depôt of the 5th Fusiliers are under orders for Dublin, and so soon as the Messenger steamer returns to port they will be embarked and despatched to Dublin, and the depôt of the 18th Royal Irish brought back in their place. The depôts of the 90th and 45th are also to move: the 84th Regiment will remain here for some months.

It was thought the farce of sending supplies to the Spanish Legion was at an end; but, to the surprise of numbers, a schooner the other day embarked upwards of forty horses from the Dockyard, to be conveyed to the Coast of Spain, being, as it is understood, part of a contract of 300 or 400 which have been purchased for the Legion. It is perfectly ridiculous, and only exhibits how the First Lord of the Admiralty permits the Dockyard to be polluted for such purposes.

The mathematical examination of Midshipmen was this month postponed from the 9th to the 16th July, in consequence of the absence on leave of the Commander-in-Chief, and the Captain of the Excellent gunnery-ship. The following were found qualified, and furnished with the necessary certificate:—

Mr. Samuel Gordon, Mr. Henry A. Norman, Mr. Harry T. Veitch, Mr. James B. Ballard, Mr. Charles O. Wood, Mr. Charles Bowles, Mr. Hervey G. St. John Mildmay, James S. Davison.

P.S.—Her Majesty's brigantine *Water Witch*, in charge of Mr. William Austen, Mate, arrived at Spithead in quarantine this day, but the Custom-house officers, having ascertained there were no cases of fever on board, soon after gave her pratique. She has suffered most dreadfully from fever while on the Coast of Africa, her Commander (William Dickey), the Assistant-Surgeon, and thirteen of the crew having fallen victims. Commander Dickey died on the 29th of May off Princes' Island. Having given himself an acting order, and finding that the sickness did not decrease, Mr. Austen very properly proceeded to the southward, and made the best of his way to the Island of Ascension, and immediate benefit was derived thereby. The *Water Witch* arrived at the Island on the 9th of June, and having obtained some refreshments from the acting-Commandant, Captain Evans, R.N., quitted for England on the 11th of June, and arrived at Portsmouth on the 20th of July. She left there the Pelican and Raven. No case of fever had occurred at Ascension since the 6th of June, and the survivors of the garrison were recovering—including the Commandant, Captain Bate, Mr. W. Ross Lewin, the Agent Victualler; Mr. Cole, Surgeon; Sergeants Hunt, Cunningham, and Warren, R.M., and several of the corps and their wives: twenty-six persons had died on the Island of fever. The *Water Witch* was compelled to bring home nineteen Kroomén to assist in navigating the vessel to England, having but twenty-five white persons on board, the greater part of whom were unable to do duty. She is at Spithead waiting orders. The Pelican and *Ætna* are daily expected. The *Water Witch* did not see the *Melville*, or speak any man-of-war on her passage home.

P.

Plymouth, June 20, 1838.

MR. EDITOR,—There has been very little doing here since the date of my last. A court-martial was held on board the Royal *Adelaide* flag-ship on the 23rd ult., to try Mr. Reeve, gunner of the *Lyra*, on charges of drunkenness and disobedience of orders; of which charges, after a full investigation, the court acquitted him. On the 22nd, the *Buzzard*, 3, brigantine, was undocked, having had her copper examined and repaired, preparatory to being commissioned; she was taken into the basin, where the works necessary to complete her for sea-service are being proceeded with. The *Metgor* steamer, commanded by Lieut. R. D. Pritchard, arrived on the

23rd ult. from Falmouth, for the purpose of towing the *Minden*, 74, into harbour to be docked; she was towed in accordingly on the following day,—was docked on the 26th, and undocked on the 28th, having had the copper stripped off the bows, which leaked, and required caulking. The *Comet*, Lieut.-Commander G. Gordon, arrived on the 25th from San Sebastian, which place she left on the 10th inst.; and she sailed again on the first of the month, having had her defects made good. The *Pantaloon*, 10, arrived from Portsmouth on the 26th, having called here to embark a party of marines for service to the north coast of Spain. The *Lightning* steamer, Lieut.-Commander Shambler, arrived on the same day, proceeding the same afternoon to Woolwich, after having taken a fresh supply of coals; and the *Columbia* steamer, Lieut.-Commander Thompson, also arrived on the 26th, and sailed the next day for Barbadoes. The *Modeste* Corvette, 18, Commander Harry Eyres, came into the Sound on the 27th, from Portsmouth. The circumstance of her having very recently been built upon a plan designed by Rear-Admiral Hon. Geo. Elliott, and acquitted herself, by all accounts, in the late trials with the *Lily*, 16-gun brig, in a manner which reflects great credit upon her constructor, made this ship an object of more than ordinary interest; few persons, however, had an opportunity of gratifying their curiosity to see her, as she sailed for the West Indies on the 28th.

A dreadful accident occurred on the 27th ult. on board the *Royal Adelaide*, in consequence of the rigging of the *Meteor* steamer having come in contact with the outer rod of the spanker-boom of the *Adelaide*, while passing under her stern. It appears that the *Meteor* was ordered to receive on board a party of marines from the flag-ship, for the purpose of conveying them to the *Pantaloon* lying in the Sound, and that she took a position about one quarter of a mile north of the flag-ship (between her and the Mount Edgecumbe shore), where she remained about twenty minutes, during which time the marines embarked. While getting under way, some doubts arose as to the preferable mode of the steamer taking her departure; for some reasons it seemed desirable that she should go ahead of the *Adelaide*, but for other reasons it was determined to pass under her stern, steaming slowly on until the anchor was cat-headed, which, as it was then blowing very hard, took some little time in doing. In passing under the stern, however, the *Meteor's* topsail-sheet and fore-lift caught the end of the *Adelaide's* spanker-boom, and became entangled with the hook of the topping-lift; the consequence of which was, that the boom-crutch was first carried away, and then the ensign-staff; after which, the boom (which had no jaw-rope) was drawn aft, the fore-end falling violently upon the poop. By this accident, a very fine young man, Mr. Lewis, mate and officer of the watch, and John Josses, quartermaster, were both killed. It is impossible to describe the sensation created in the neighbourhood by this unhappy event. The pilot, poor fellow, has absolutely become deranged, and is now in the hospital under confinement, although he was told at the time that no blame could be imputed to him. From the evidence taken at the coroner's inquest, it appears that 1 foot, or 18 inches more would have cleared the *Adelaide*; and the pilot gave it as his opinion, that there was no danger to be apprehended from the course taken by the *Meteor*. Before the collision took place, four men were out aloft in the steamer to clear or cut away the topsail-sheet, but could not reach it. This distressing catastrophe, much as it is to be regretted, seems to have been purely accidental, and not to attach particular blame to any individual. A similarly slight collision might take place five hundred times without being attended with any serious consequences. The *Rolla*, 10-gun brig, was taken alongside the dockyard on the 1st of this month, to be brought forward for commission; and was docked on the 5th inst., to have the copper examined. The *Talbot*, 28, Captain H. Codrington, went out of harbour on the 5th inst., and anchored in the Sound;

she remained there until the 16th inst., when she sailed for Lisbon, Gibraltar, and the Mediterranean. The Peterel new packet, recently launched at Pembroke dockyard, arrived in Hamoaze on the 7th inst., in charge of Mr. Walker, second master, attendant at this port. The Messenger, Mr. King, master, arrived on the 9th from Portsmouth, with the second division of the 9th Regiment on board, who landed at the dockyard, and marched thence into the citadel at Plymouth: she took coals on board and embarked a depôt of the 36th regiment, under the command of Captain Ashmore, and sailed with them for Cork on the 12th inst. The Jaseur, 18, was commissioned on the 11th by Commander F. M. Bouldbee. The officers appointed to her are Lieut. Robert Pipon; Mr. James Penn, acting master; Mr. A. Gilbert, purser; Mr. Alexander Ellis, gunner; Mr. James Wilson, boatswain; Mr. W. Brown, carpenter; Mr. Jason Lardner, surgeon; and Mr. Thomas Jenkins, assistant-surgeon. She is to receive a complement of 110 men.

The Pilot 16-gun brig was launched at this Dockyard on Saturday, the 9th inst., at half-past five in the afternoon; the Admiral Superintendent and several of his friends were present on the occasion, and the ceremony of christening the vessel was performed by the lady of Edward St. Aubyn, Esq., mayor of Devonport. The Pilot is similar to the two last brigs, Ringdove and Sappho, launched from the same slip, which were built upon Sir William Symonds's plan.

The Pique is expected here shortly, on her return from Halifax, when it is supposed she will be fitted out for the Mediterranean station. Accounts from Halifax, dated April 24th, state that she sailed thence on the 23rd for Quebec, with detachments of the 15th, 34th, 66th, and 85th Regiments. Probably she will there fall in with the Inconstant.

The Weazel, 10, Lieut. M'Ilwaine, will be ready to go out of harbour next week. The Ranger packet sailed on Saturday last, the 16th inst., having undergone a complete refit, after her late disaster at Falmouth. The Minden still continues in harbour, but will go out in the course of a few days; she has had a new mainmast, and many defects made good.

We are very bare of news this month, but I hope to find something more interesting to communicate to you in my next. In the meantime,
I remain yours, &c.

D.

Plymouth, July 20th, 1838.

MR. EDITOR,—The Hamoaze lighter sailed from this port on the 21st ult. with stores for Pembroke, also with a party of caulkers, who are to be employed upon the Merlin, Medusa, and Daphne, building at that Dockyard. The two former are intended for steam-vessels of 300-horse power each; and the latter is a large corvette, of 730 tons, similar to the Dido, to carry twenty 32-pounder medium guns. The Weazel, 10, Lieut.-Commander John Simpson, went out of harbour on the 21st, and sailed on the 16th inst., for Malta, touching at Gibraltar. The Caledonia, 120, was undocked on the 23rd ult., having been under repair about four months; she is now alongside one of the jetties fitting for sea-service, and is to be put into what is termed "demonstration" condition. It was attempted, on the same evening, to take the Calcutta, 84, into the dock, from which the Caledonia was removed; but as there was not sufficient depth of water to accomplish it without taking out more ballast than was at first thought necessary, she was lightened, and got in on the following morning. The Sir Francis Drake steamer, which runs between this port, Falmouth, and the islands of Guernsey and Jersey, made a journey to Portsmouth on the 23rd ult., instead of the Brunswick, this vessel having met with a slight accident to her machinery, which rendered it necessary she should discontinue running for a few days; she has, however, successfully renewed

her journeys. The *Savage*, 10, Lieut. Henry James Lacon, acting, arrived here from the north coast of Spain on the 26th ult.; she was paid off on the 29th, and re-commissioned on the following day by Lieutenant Lacon, who has been confirmed to his present rank. She went down into the Sound on the 16th, was paid wages on Tuesday last (18th), and is waiting orders before she proceeds to the north coast of Spain. The *Minden*, 74, Captain Sharpe, C. B., having been into dock, and had her defects made good, including a new main-mast, went down into the Sound on the 26th ult.; she was paid wages on the 29th, and sailed on the 9th of this month for Malta, intending to call at Lisbon and Gibraltar on her way out. The *Messenger* steamer, Mr. King, master, arrived from Cork on the 27th, with a *depôt* of the 46th Regiment on board; she landed them, and sailed on the 3rd of this month, with a *depôt* of the 57th Regiment, for Ireland; she returned on the 7th inst. with a *depôt* of the 15th Regiment, and sailed on the 11th for Kinsale; and again on Monday last (16th inst.) she arrived from Ireland with a *depôt* of the 11th, and having landed invalids, proceeded to Chatham. The *Buzzard*, brigantine, was undocked on the 27th ult., having been taken in on the 23rd for the purpose of being fitted with an additional false keel; she now lies in the basin at the Dockyard ready to be commissioned, which is daily expected to take place, when it is supposed she will be equipped for the coast of Africa.

The 28th ult. being the day appointed for Her Majesty's Coronation, it was a general holiday here, as elsewhere; and the manner in which the festival was celebrated did honour to the loyal feelings of the inhabitants of Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport. The guns of the Citadel and other land batteries, including that of the Earl of Mount Edgecumbe, fired a royal salute at noon, and the troops of the garrison met upon Mount Wise, where they fired a *feu-de-joie*. At one o'clock the men-of-war in commission also fired a royal salute, and every vessel in the port was decorated by a splendid display of colours. Upon the whole, the rejoicings of the day, which were of great variety, were kept up with great spirit, and never, perhaps, did the neighbourhood exhibit a scene of more apparent universal happiness.

The *Tortoise* lighter, with Mr. Walker, second Master-attendant, on board, sailed from this port, on the 3rd inst., for Dartmouth, to assist in weighing a coasting vessel which had been sunk at that port about three months previously. The vessel having been *sundered*, it was not possible to get her up; however, her masts, rigging, &c. have been removed, so that the navigation will not suffer at all by the wreck. The *Rover*, 18, Commander C. Eden, arrived on the 6th inst. from Portsmouth, which port she reached on the 1st instant, on her return from South America; she was paid off on the 16th inst., and it is expected that she will be refitted for commission. The *Jupiter* troop-ship, Mr. Easte, master, arrived in the Sound on the 6th inst., from Halifax, in fifteen days; she is now in harbour, having defects which require to be made good, and being infested with rats, which it will take much trouble to get rid of. The *Penguin* new packet, fitting 'for sea-service,' was taken into dock on the 10th inst., and turned out again on the 17th. The *Volcano* steamer, Lieut.-Commander J. West, arrived on the 11th from Portsmouth, and sailed on the 12th for Malta, taking cut with her Sir A. Woodford, governor of Gibraltar. The *Nightingale* packet, lately commanded by Lieutenant Fortescue, who died a short time since at Falmouth, arrived in the Sound on the 12th; she has since come into harbour, but it is not yet known whether she is to undergo a *refit*, or be paid off, her condition not having yet been ascertained. The *Jaseur*, 18, and *Savage*, 10, were both paid wages on the 18th, and are expected to sail in a day or two; the former to the Mediterranean, and the latter to the north coast of Spain. The *Skylark* packet came up from Falmouth, on the 19th inst., to re-fit. The *Hercules*, 74, is expected here very shortly: as soon as she arrives her defects will be attended to, and

she will be equipped and stored for foreign service. The Pique has long been looked for, but it seems that she has cheated us, as she is said to have arrived on Sunday last at Portsmouth, in twenty days, from Quebec. Rear-Admiral Hancock, late Captain of the ordinary at this port, having obtained his flag rank at the Coronation, has been superseded by Captain J. N. Taylor, an officer of high standing in the service. The Icarus, Frolic, and Kingfisher, old 10-gun brigs, are to be sold out of the Service. The Pilot, 16-gun brig, launched at this Dockyard on the 6th of last month, is now quite ready for commissioning; her masts were put into her yesterday, and we are daily expecting to see the pennant hoisted. The Grecian and Rolla, brigs; the Buzzard, brigantine; and the Penguin and Peterel packets, will also soon be ready to be put in commission. The commissioned ships now in port are the Royal Adelaide, 104, flag-ship, and the San Josef, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Superintendent Warren; also the Nightingale and Skylark packets; and those in the Sound are the Jaseet and Savage. The ships in dock are the Calcutta, 84; Endymion, 48; Hamadryad, 46; and Lancaster, 52: those at the jetties are, the Nemesis, 46, in ordinary; the Grecian and Rolla brigs, fitting for sea-service; the Caledonia, first-rate, bringing forward for sea-service, and the Peterel new packet, fitting also for sea-service. The ships building are the St. George, 120; Nile, 92; Hindostan, 80; Flora, 36; and Acorn, 16-gun brig.

I am yours, &c.

D.

Milford Haven, June 17, 1838.

MR. EDITOR.—My monthly communication, in the present instance, commences with the intelligence that, on the 19th ultimo, a new arrangement took place as regards the crews of the Admiralty steam-packets on this station employed in the conveyance of the mails. Prior to that period they were subject to martial-law, since their transfer from the Post-Office department like all other regular men-of-war; but now the hands are agreed with at certain rates of wages for twelve months certain, as is the case with store-ships, and vessels employed in the conveyance of troops. They are subject to *fines* for neglect of duty; and *discharge*, with loss of wages, for still greater offences: thus corporal punishment on board, and courts-martial, are superseded.

On the 20th the superseded officers of the Pembroke Dockyard were re-instated, on being reprimanded by the Captain Superintendent, at the *express desire of the Lords of the Admiralty*, whose "*high displeasure*" they were, on the occasion, informed, they had incurred. On the 23rd, another vessel of the Surveyor's constructing was launched from the Dockyard; and although these sights are of frequent occurrence, a considerable number of spectators assembled on the occasion. The following are the principal dimensions of the vessel, the Peterel, and she is intended for the packet service:—

			Ft.	In.
Length between the perpendiculars	.	.	95	1
Do. of keel for tonnage	.	.	75	0
Breadth, extreme	.	.	30	3
Do. for tonnage	.	.	30	0
Do. moulded	.	.	29	6
Depth in hold	.	.	14	8½
Burthen in tons, old method	.	.	359½	
Do. do. new do.	.	.	257	
Depth of water on launching, aft	.	.	9	10
Do. do. forward	.	.	7	9

Mr. Walker, with a party of riggers, arrived from Plymouth in the Hamoaze lighter, to rig and take charge of her. She was docked the following day, where she was coppered, taken out on the 28th, and sailed at

once for Plymouth, where she will shortly be brought forward for commission. In hoisting in one of the masts, a seaman belonging to the guardship at Plymouth, lent for the purpose of navigating this vessel to the latter port, not understanding the cranes used in dockyards for such services, was struck by the winch handle, which so dreadfully fractured his skull that he died in a few hours.

Mr. Morgan, Inspector of Steam-Engines for the Navy, arrived at Pembroke on the 30th ultimo, and minutely examined the state of the engines on board the packets on the station, in each of which he took a short experimental trip down the Haven, to ascertain their speed, efficiency, &c. A new steam-engine is being set up in that arsenal for the united purposes of pumping out the dock, and setting in motion the drilling-machine, saw-mills, &c.

Every possible exertion is being made at Pembroke to complete the Merlin and Medusa steam-packets, of the largest class; and already, although not more than a month or six weeks in hand, very considerable progress has been made on them. As the whole of the caulkers belonging to the arsenal are employed on these ships, others have been borrowed from Plymouth to complete the caulking of the Daphne, the next vessel to be launched from Pembroke, and which will take place in six weeks time. She, too, is to be hurried to completion, in order to have the slip for laying down the Cyclops frigate. A few hands (shipwrights) are employed on the Collingwood; but these will be taken off next week, and put on the two steamers, for they are to be finished by the latter end of September, and the rivalry of the workmen on these craft is carried to the utmost extreme.

G.

Milford Haven, 17th July, 1838.

MR. EDITOR,—The gaieties of celebrating the Coronation is the first topic I have to report for this month. At an early hour on that day this port exhibited every demonstration of joy and gladness. All the Queen's ships in harbour were gaily decorated, and at mid-day royal salutes were fired from the fort, the Skylark revenge cutter, and the Trinity tender. Indeed, it is but an act of justice thus to record the loyalty of the Haven generally on that auspicious day, and we heartily wish Her Most Gracious Majesty a long and prosperous reign.

A company of caulkers has just arrived at Pembroke-yard from Plymouth, lent for the purpose of expediting the completion of the Merlin and Medusa steamers, building in that establishment with every possible despatch; indeed, the exertions making to finish them are more like those of war time than anything we have witnessed since that period. The Daphne, 18-guns, a beautiful little craft of the present Surveyor's construction, will be launched early next month; and the Cyclops, another large steamer, immediately laid down on the slip she leaves. The erection of the new steam-engine is rapidly progressing in that Dockyard. The Monkey steam-packet was compelled to return to port with the mail on board, on the 6th inst., from inefficiency to proceed against a strong breeze from the north-west. This old vessel (formerly the Lightning, and then the Sovereign), is not at all adapted to the duties of the station, and passengers frequently object to go over by her. Such was the case in two instances last week. The Prospero, Lieut. Hoseason, took the mail and proceeded, and got to Waterford quite as soon as the Monkey would have done had she been able to go from her original starting. If more efficient vessels were to take the place of the Monkey,—the Jasper and the Advice, the duties of the station would not only be more effectually kept up, but more passengers would undoubtedly be induced to pass this route. The Prospero and Adder are alone equal to the service.

G.

REVIEWS AND CRITICAL NOTICES.

NARRATIVE OF AN EXPEDITION IN H.M.S. TERROR. BY CAPTAIN BACK.

NEVER did thorough-bred sailor produce a book more honourable to his noble calling than this; it is the record of a miracle effected by mortal means under God's providence.

We doubt whether, since the origin of navigation, the wonders and the horrors of the deep have ever been displayed in more baffling and terrific forms to those who "go down to the sea in ships." Arrested almost within view of the goal by insurmountable barriers, with the heavy discouragement of a position so critical as to be all but hopeless, under the physical pressure of a degree of cold hardly conceivable to southerners, and of the most dispiriting ailments, amidst the monotony of a toil which seemed fruitless and hopes indefinitely deferred, there was neither relaxation, nor despondency, nor murmuring amongst the sturdy crew of the *Terror*. That her commander and officers were noble fellows will be readily understood; but every one should read this wonderful narrative to comprehend the extent to which the qualities of foresight and resolution, and the capacity for command, were carried by Captain Back and his First Lieutenant, now Commander Smyth. The volume is adorned by exquisite sketches of the ship in every position, drawn on the spot by the latter officer.

No vessel, we believe, still occupied by her crew, has ever been in a situation affording such accurate observation of the arcana of ice, in all its stages, varieties, and action. The journal of the *Terror* is, in fact, a Chronicle of Congelation in all its forms and effects, nascent and full-grown, fixed or floating, offensive or defensive. It will constitute hereafter an Ice Guide for Mariners. Never was thick-ribbed ship so patted and hugged by "thick-ribbed ice" as the poor *Terror*; and how she escaped and got back to Lough Swilly, or rather how Back got her there, is a chapter of romance and reality which suspends the breath in the reading.

We are not going to review this volume at present, for two reasons: we have not room now, and we have other intentions respecting it; but we could not allow a month to elapse without making some allusion to a narrative so deeply interesting in its nature, and so highly honourable to the skill, intrepidity, and tact of the Commander and his officers, and to the enduring obedience of the crew.

STATISTICAL REPORT ON THE SICKNESS, MORTALITY, AND INVALIDING AMONG THE TROOPS IN THE WEST INDIES.

Our able contributor, Captain Tulloch, has, after vast labour, produced his first report on the vital subject to which his talents and industry have been so successfully devoted. The present document, which has been presented to both Houses of Parliament, contains its framer's researches into "the Sanatory details" of the military establishments of the West Indies—each colony and island being separately considered.

An appendix furnishes abstracts of the most important returns on which this invaluable report was founded. Here British officers will read the facts connected with the mysterious mortality of regions amongst the fairest of the globe, and be satisfied by indisputable data, tested by figures, and carefully collated, of the propriety of the means now in operation, or about to be so, for its future prevention. Amongst these are the rotation system, and the modification of diet amongst the troops, which were originally recommended by their author through the pages of this Journal, in which, we need not add, many other able lucubrations, by the same hand, have appeared at a period prior to his present official employment.

Mere speculative matter is entirely discarded from this report, in which "the main object kept in view has been merely to determine the extent of sickness and mortality at each station, the diseases by which it has been induced, and such causes of these diseases as appear sufficiently obvious or tangible to admit of remedy." This object has been admirably fulfilled.

We must add that much instruction of a geographical as well as statistical nature, and much miscellaneous information, may be derived from a perusal of this report.

Reports of the same nature respecting our other colonies will appear in succession.

Captain Tulloch was originally joined in these investigations, directed by the Secretary at War in 1835, with Mr. Henry Marshall, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, in consequence of his having been previously engaged with that experienced statistician in some corresponding researches. Mr. Marshall removed to the charge of the medical department in Edinburgh, leaving the completion of this task to Captain Tulloch, by whom, however, he is still consulted.

NOTICES TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

ALTHOUGH we have this month added an extra sheet to our usual limits, in order to make room for the Coronation Promotions and other voluminous details, we have been forced to postpone several articles which were intended for insertion,—amongst the rest some concluding "Anecdotes of Sir Sidney Smith." Having, on our return to London, after an absence of a couple of months, occasioned by a domestic calamity, observed an obvious and accidental anachronism in the last portion of these "Anecdotes," where Buonaparte is prematurely styled "First Consul," instead of General-in-Chief, we pointed it out to the writer, by whom the error is corrected in the forthcoming sequel, now in type.

We are also under the necessity of deferring, till our next Number, an account of the presentation of new colours, by the Duke of Wellington, to the 20th Regiment; and an authentic narrative of the late operations of blowing to pieces the wrecks in the river, executed under the direction of Colonel Pasley.

A correspondent submits the following query:—"Have the Americans at this moment a ship, or ships, in Commission, rated as carrying a greater number of guns, and manned by a greater number of seamen, than any we have in our Service?" We believe not, but shall ascertain the fact.

With our present Number we have given the Title and Index to the Volume, as well as those to the preceding one. It is our intention, in future, if possible, to give them with the last Number of each Volume to which they belong.

EDITOR'S PORTFOLIO;

OR,

NAVAL AND MILITARY REGISTER.

AFFAIRS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

THE CORONATION of the Queen was celebrated on the 28th of June, with much external pomp, and with every demonstration of respectful attachment to the monarchy and to her Majesty's person.

The Procession, announced by a salute of cannon, left the new Palace shortly after ten o'clock A.M., and proceeded along the indicated route from Hyde Park Corner to Westminster Abbey, through files of troops, both horse and foot, and amidst a vast concourse of spectators of all degrees, ranged along the sides of the streets, or thronging the adjacent windows and covered balconies prepared for the occasion. The pageant was brilliant—the weather favourable—the order which prevailed perfect—and the conduct of the troops and police exemplary.

Towards five o'clock the procession returned in the same order from the Abbey, where the effect was grand and the scene exciting. The ceremonies, however, were abridged—the banquet and other customary forms, adhered to on the Coronation of George the Fourth, having been omitted in this instance. The reception of the Duke of Wellington was enthusiastic.

The equipages of the foreign Ambassadors formed a considerable and splendid portion of the cortège. The carriage of Marshal Soult attracted much attention, and the veteran himself received proofs of the estimation in which a distinguished soldier, of whatever country, is held by the British people. The members of the United Service Club, on the Marshal's passing that building, pointedly evinced their respect for an officer to whom a large proportion of them had been opposed in war; and it appeared to be the general desire to couple the former foe with the present minister of peace only in the most honourable relations of an antagonist.

The singular decorum of the people throughout the various and protracted stages of the main exhibition was exposed to a severe test by the Saturnalia licensed to "come off" in the Park in the form of a fair during three or four successive days, producing a most dull and dissolute scene, but operating, more in a military than a festive sense, as a *diversion*, by relieving the great throng of spectators from the pressure of the combined crowd from country and city.

The brigade of Artillery which fired the salutes was encamped in St. James's Park, and made both a picturesque and soldier-like appearance.

The troops employed on this occasion were composed and distributed as follows:—

GENERAL ORDER.

Horse Guards, 23rd June, 1838.

The troops specified in the margin* will assist at the ceremony of Her Majesty's Coronation, on Thursday the 28th inst., and will, on that occasion, be commanded by Major-Gen. Sir C. Dalbiac, K.C.H. The Cavalry will be commanded by Col. Greenwood, of the 2nd Life Guards;—the nine-pounder batteries by Lieut.-Col. Cleaveland, of the Royal Artillery;—and the Infantry by Col. D'Oyly, of the Grenadier Guards.

The Cavalry will be distributed as follows, viz.—The Household Brigade along the whole line of procession. The 4th Dragoon Guards in Old and New Palace Yard; at the west end of Bridge-street; in Margaret-street, and at the east end of Great George-street, Westminster; at which latter point the regimental band will be placed. The 6th Dragoon Guards in Whitehall-place, the Strand, and Trafalgar-square; the regimental band near the statue at Charing cross. The 10th Royal Hussars in Trafalgar-square, Pall-mall East, and Waterloo-place; the regimental band to the north of the Duke of York's column. The 12th Royal Lancers at the south end of John-street Pall-mall, at St. James's Palace, the top of St. James's-street, and Hyde Park Corner: the Regt. Band at St. James's Palace. The Royal Artillery will take post in St. James's Park. The Foot Guards, the Infantry of the Line, and the Royal Marines, will be extended along the route of the procession (beginning at the western entrance of Westminster Abbey) as far as their numbers will admit; and the Hon. Artillery Company will take post in St. Margaret's Churchyard, with its left upon the church, and its right extending towards Bridge-street. The band of the Royal Artillery will be stationed in front of the Ordnance Office in Pall-mall, and that of the Royal Marines in front of the Admiralty. The bands, drums, and bugles of the Infantry will be stationed with their respective battalions. Each band of Cavalry and Infantry will play "God save the Queen," as Her Majesty passes, and will continue to play until Her Majesty shall have passed the regiment or battalion to which it belongs. In order to give additional solemnity to the procession, no tune but that of "God save the Queen" will be played whilst Her Majesty is passing the troops. The troops will salute in succession as her Majesty passes, each battalion of Infantry continuing with "Presented Arms" until Her Majesty shall have passed in front, when the men will shoulder arms, and the music and drums cease. The Household Cavalry will furnish three squadrons to move in the procession, as guards of honour, and will also furnish the usual guards of honour on state occasions, for such members of the Royal Family as are to move in the procession. Each squadron will have a standard, and be commanded by a Captain. The three squadrons will be commanded by the Senior Field-Officer of the Household Brigade, not in command of a regiment. The standards of the Household Cavalry, except those attached to the guards of honour, will be stationed with the respective regimental bands, each regiment furnishing a subaltern's guard for the protection of its own standards. The Household Cavalry will station a subaltern's detachment of 20 men in the open space near the Insolvent Debtors' Court, opposite the western entrance of Westminster Abbey; and the Major-General Commanding will post detachments, either of the Household Brigade, or of the Cavalry of the Line, at such points in the line of the procession as shall be most convenient for affording ready assistance to the police, if necessary, as well as to furnish constant patrols along the line of procession during the ceremony. Two mounted

* Cavalry—1st Regt. of Life Guards, 2nd do. do.; Royal Regt. Horse Guards, 4th Regt. Drag. Guards, 6th do. do.; 10th R. Hussars, 12th R. Lancers. Royal Artillery—Two nine-pounder batteries of six guns each. Infantry—Foot Guards, Gren. Regt., 1st and 3rd Bat.; detachment of 1st Bat. of the Coldstream Regt.; Scots Fusiliers, 1st and 2nd Bat.; 20th Regt. of Foot, Detachment R. Marines; Rifle Brigade, 1st and 2nd Bat.; the Hon. Artillery Company.

sentries of the Household Brigade will be posted, at certain intervals, along that line. The 12th Royal Lancers will furnish the Cavalry guard at the Horse Guards, on Wednesday morning the 27th inst., and be relieved by the Household Cavalry on the following day, after the ceremony. The 20th Regiment will march from the Tower at an early hour on Thursday morning, and on its arrival at Charing-cross will receive further orders from Colonel D'Oyly. That Regiment will return to its quarters after the ceremony.

The following salutes will be fired on the day of the Coronation, viz.—
 21 guns at sun-rise. 21 guns when her Majesty moves from Buckingham Palace. 21 guns upon the arrival of her Majesty at Westminster Abbey. 41 guns when the crown is placed upon her Majesty's head. 21 guns when her Majesty leaves the Abbey. 21 guns upon her Majesty's return to Buckingham Palace. The whole of the troops will be at their stations by seven o'clock on Thursday morning, and the Major-General will take care that the military arrangements shall, in no instance, disturb or interfere with those which have been regulated by the Earl Marshal and the Master of the Horse, and published by them for general information and guidance. He will also take care that the troops render every possible assistance to those Officers of State and others who are to superintend and conduct the procession.—By command of the Right Hon. the General Commanding-in-Chief.
 JOHN MACDONALD, Adj.-General.

We have already alluded to the recognised good conduct of all the troops: the following facts, highly creditable to the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, came within our own knowledge. Being extended from early morn until late in the day along Piccadilly, of which they lined the sides from Hyde Park Corner, no irregularity or collision of any description occurred in their discharge of that trying service. Colonel Browne, to mark his sense of their steadiness, told his men, on dismissing the Battalion at Chelsea, that, to enable them to enjoy the passing amusements, he would dispense with their appearance till ten o'clock the following morning, when he expected to find every man present and sober on parade. His confidence was not misplaced—not a man was absent or intoxicated, or bearing the least appearance of having been concerned in a fray.

The meritorious service of the police, under circumstances requiring unusual temper and firmness, was acknowledged by a substantial testimonial, in the shape of an extra day's pay to each grade,—a boon which, by the way, might have been extended to the troops on this extraordinary occasion.

A Review took place in Hyde Park on Monday the 9th ult., in presence of Her Majesty. The troops reviewed, the manoeuvres executed, and the arrangements adopted on this occasion, are indicated in the following official memorandum:—

MEMORANDUM.

Horse Guards, July 6, 1838.—The troops specified below* will be reviewed in Hyde Park, on Monday morning, the 9th instant, at eleven o'clock; the Line to be commanded by General the Marquis of Anglesea, K.G., G.C.B. The Royal Artillery to be commanded by Colonel Rogers. The Royal

* Three troops of Royal Horse Artillery, having two guns each. 1st and 2nd Regiments of Life Guards. Royal Horse Guards. 10th Royal Hussars. 12th Royal Lancers. Three batteries of Field Artillery, having four guns each. Foot Guards—1st and 3rd Battalions of the Grenadier Regiment, 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Scots Fusiliers, 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Rifle Brigade.

Horse Artillery will be under the immediate command of Lieut.-Colonel Whinyates. The Field Batteries to be under the immediate command of Lieut.-Colonel Cleaveland. The Cavalry to be commanded by Lieut.-Gen. Sir C. Dalbiac, K.C.H. The Foot Guards and Infantry of the Line to be commanded by Major-General D'Oyly. The ground to be kept by detachments of the 4th and 6th Dragoon Guards, and of the 20th Regiment; the respective Commanding Officers of which will, as soon as possible, attend the Quartermaster-General, at the Horse Guards, to receive his orders for the performance of this duty. No carriages to be admitted into Hyde Park on that day, until after the troops shall have been withdrawn, except the carriages of the Royal Family. No horsemen to be admitted into the park upon this occasion, with the following exceptions, viz., Royal personages, Ambassadors, Foreign Ministers, resident Foreign Ambassadors and Ministers Extraordinary, with their respective suites in regular attendance upon them. And excepting also her Majesty's Ministers, her Majesty's Aides-de-Camp, in uniform; mounted officers belonging to the troops to be reviewed, General Officers in uniform, Commandants of Corps in the United Kingdom in uniform. No grooms to be admitted into Hyde Park during the review, except those of the Royal Family. It is to be distinctly understood that one line only of spectators is to be kept in Hyde Park during the review, and that no person whatsoever, with the exception of the authorities above specified, can be suffered to pass that line. The General Officers and Commandants of Corps who attend the review on horseback, and in uniform, will be furnished with tickets of admission to the Park, upon applying for the same, either personally or in writing, to the Quartermaster-General, at his office, at the Horse Guards, to-morrow, before seven o'clock, P.M. The Staff to appear in plain uniform upon this occasion. The riband is not to be worn over the coat.

By command of the Right Hon. the General Command-in-Chief.

J. MACDONALD, Adjutant-General.

MEMORANDUM.

Horse Guards, July 7, 1838.—The Queen having signified her intention to review the troops to be assembled in Hyde Park on Monday next, the 9th instant, her Majesty's Aides-de-Camp will attend her Majesty upon that occasion, and assemble (mounted) at Buckingham Palace on Monday morning, at half-past ten o'clock.

J. MACDONALD, Adjutant-General.

MEMORANDUM.

Horse Guards, July 7, 1838.—The troops to be reviewed in Hyde Park on Monday, the 9th instant, will be formed in contiguous columns (the cavalry in close column, the infantry at quarter distance), in the following order from the right, viz.—Royal Horse Artillery, Household Cavalry Brigade, First Battalion Rifle Brigade, Brigade of Foot Guards, Second Battalion Rifle Brigade, Light Cavalry, Field Batteries of Artillery. When the personage who reviews the troops takes his station, the Horse Artillery will fire a salute, after which the Line will salute. The troops will march past in slow time, after which the artillery and the cavalry will form in close columns upon the right of the ground. The Foot Guards and the Rifle Brigade will then march past in quick time, and, having wheeled upon the line of the original formation, will form in line. Whilst the infantry is thus forming, the artillery and cavalry will trot by, and, having passed, will wheel; the cavalry forming line about 200 paces in rear of the infantry, and the Horse Artillery forming on the right, and the Field Batteries on the left of the line of infantry. As soon as the infantry shall find their front clear, they will commence firing volleys by battalions from the right. The infantry will advance, the two Rifle Battalions in column, and the Foot Guards in line. The line will then retire, in direct echelon of battalions, from the left, and, when halted, will form squares on the centre subdivisions of battalions. The squares will then fire. The squares

will re-form column, and retire in column, forming in rear of the cavalry. The cavalry will advance, and, having attacked, will retire by threes from the right of squadrons, through the intervals of the infantry, and form line. The infantry will resume their original position, by deploying, covered by skirmishers, the artillery firing from the flanks. The infantry will then commence file firing. The firing having ceased, both lines will advance in parade order, and salute.

J. MACDONALD, Adjutant-General.

MEMORANDUM.

House Guards, July 7, 1838.—The Brigades to be reviewed in Hyde Park on Monday, the 9th instant, will be commanded as follows, viz.—The Household Cavalry, by the Hon. Colonel Cavendish, of the 1st Life Guards. The Light Cavalry Brigade, by Colonel Stawell, of the 12th Royal Lancers. The Foot Guards, by Colonel Aitchison, of the Scots Fusiliers; and the Rifle Brigade, by Colonel Brown, of that corps.

By command of the Right Hon. the General Commanding in Chief.

J. MACDONALD, Adjutant-General.

As this Review was attended by Marshal Soult, and the various other foreign officers and diplomatists whom the Coronation had collected in London, it was desirable that the exhibition should be as successful as circumstances would permit; and certainly the result did not disappoint the wishes of those who hoped for a display calculated to make a favourable impression on persons accustomed to witness the manœuvres of the large bodies of men usually crowded into the camps of exercise on the Continent. The force on the present occasion was, no doubt, small—not exceeding 5000 men; but it was composed of the choicest troops, including specimens of each particular arm, and forming together a body not to be surpassed in Europe. We know that Marshal Soult had been much struck by the appearance of the troops on the day of the Coronation—especially by the Household Brigade. “*Ils sont des Colosses*,” said the veteran, “*des troupes superbes*,” and it was feared the smallness of the force assembled for review might weaken the impression of its quality. It proved otherwise. Fortunately the weather was unusually favourable, and the affair went off with unclouded éclat.

It is scarcely necessary to remark that the confined and interrupted nature of the ground in Hyde Park, and the obstruction from the crowd, who must of course be accommodated, render it somewhat difficult to adapt the manœuvres, even of so limited a force as that now collected, to the arena on which they are to be executed; in the present case this preliminary was not unskillfully arranged, and, with some trifling deviations and failures, the movements were effected in the order laid down.

Her Majesty having traversed the line in her carriage, accompanied by a less brilliant staff and suite than we have seen on former occasions, owing to the system of prohibition enforced on the present, the troops marched past, and we have never witnessed better marching than that of the Guards and Rifles. The Duke of Wellington, who, except in going through this form, kept himself in the back-ground, passed at the head of the Grenadiers, and, when discovered, was warmly cheered. Of four battalions present—two Grenadiers and two Rifles—his Grace was Colonel-in-Chief.

The manœuvres then began. The firing in volleys of battalions, though an unusual way of commencing a battle, was effectively performed. The square and file firing was gallantly sustained, and briskly accompanied by the running base of the Artillery, whose service and

equipment were, as usual, admirable; nor were the well-trained movements of the Rifles, who skirmished in front of the line, and, to the admiration of the crowd, loaded and fired as they lay on the ground, the least spirited part of the operations. The array and charge of the Household Brigade were splendid and imposing, though the movements showed a want of *ensemble* only to be acquired by practice in bodies, of which the British service affords few, if any, opportunities. The skirmishing of the 10th Hussars, in covering their retreat, was a little heavy; we have seen the 10th do their work more smartly on the Plain of Béauvais. The horses generally did not appear sufficiently used even to the squibbing of that most inefficient of weapons, the carbine. By the way, the economical cartridge issued on these occasions should be placed on full allowance to produce effect. Lord Londonderry, urged by unquenchable zeal, was seen actively directing the skirmishers of his fine regiment. One of the variations from the programme occurred in the retreat of the Cavalry; who retired, covered by the 10th, by alternate squadrons, instead of by threes from the right of squadrons; and both Cavalry and guns went past the Queen by threes between the slow and quick march of the Infantry. In the last deployment of the Infantry an unlooked-for gap was observed in the right centre of the line, which occasioned some comment, and was but tardily remedied.

The final advance in parade-order was very fine. The Marquis of Anglesea, who commanded the troops, riding up to the Queen, requested Her Majesty's commands, and, on receiving the royal approbation of the military display, ventured to suggest, if we are rightly informed, that Her Majesty would have seen it to more advantage on horseback; to which the Queen is said to have replied that it might be so on a future occasion. We trust Her Majesty may not be advised to deviate from the more feminine and Queenly course, nor to aim at any comparison with "Queen Bess"—the times, the cases, and the persons are utterly different; and at all seasons in our humble opinion—

Bellezza e leggiadria sono arme delle Donne.

We observed Marshal Soult, who was placed on horseback at the right of the Queen's carriage, watching the progress of the Review with marked attention, and at its close he addressed Lord Anglesea, who had joined him in the throng, with the air of a comrade who shared in the success of the field-day. "*La revue a réussi au delà de l'expression*," said the Marshal, as he shook hands with the victor of Sahagun, to whom, by the way, he bore the grateful acknowledgments of more than twenty French officers, taken by Lord Paget, some of them in that brilliant Cavalry action, and treated by their captor with the courteous generosity of a gallant cavalier. We well recollect seeing them as they passed through Mayorga, captive and crest-fallen, after the combat.

An immense crowd filled the Park and its avenues, and, on the departure of the Queen and the breaking up of the troops, the distinguished foreigners present, including the Duke de Nemours, Marshal Soult, Prince Christian of Holstein, and many others, adjourned to Holderness House, where the elegant hospitality of Lord and Lady Londonderry afforded ready and welcome relief to numbers of the parched and sunburnt actors in, and spectators of, the scene. Prince George of Cambridge, a promising Prince, who bids fair for popularity, was amongst the latter.

The ground was well kept—too strictly, indeed,—in pursuance of a

novel regulation, originating, as we have reason to believe, not with the military authorities, but with the Home-Office, and which created much discontent. The spectators were confined to one common line, including in its crush ladies of all degrees, officers of all ranks, even in uniform, and everybody, in short, who was by sex or station entitled to a little consideration on such occasions. The alleged reason for this inclusion, rigidly enforced by the police, who alone acted, the allotted troops merely marking the ground, was the difficulty of keeping a second line; but greater difficulties have been overcome by the adequate means at hand, and greater satisfaction given. We are warm advocates for affording every facility to the people for witnessing such spectacles, in which they take especial delight; but we greatly mistake their feeling, judging particularly by the late occasion, if they be not always ready to cede any little advantage in point of position to officers, whom they know to be professionally as well as nationally interested in these matters. With regard to ladies, we believe their accommodation in the first place is an affair of course amongst all classes. We never witnessed a stronger disposition to mutual accommodation, where possible under the severe pressure, than at the late Review. The crowd spontaneously made way for an officer in uniform, seeming to think, unlike their rulers, that he had some right to participate, through his eyes, in scenes of which he was part and parcel, and to derive from them whatever professional gratification or instruction they might be calculated to convey. This, in fact, is the only "Camp of Exercise" to which a British officer can resort at home for any notion of the practical working of troops. He should, therefore, have every facility for seeing and turning it to account. The following order of the day was issued to the troops by the Marquis of Anglesea.

ORDER.

Uxbridge House, London 9th July, 1838.

General the Marquis of Anglesey has the pleasure of announcing to the several corps he has had the honour to command, that he has received, through the General Commanding-in-Chief, the Queen's commands to make known to them Her Majesty's entire approbation of their performance this day. The General is always happy on every occasion which brings him in communication with Her Majesty's troops, and he has to express his gratification at having had the honour to command them upon the present occasion.

We are indebted to a friend on the spot for the following account of the late Review at Woolwich, a spectacle combining an unusual degree of military splendour and moral interest. An Official Programme, of which we subjoin a copy, was previously issued:—

PROGRAMME OF OPERATIONS ON THURSDAY, JULY 5.

PREPARATORY.—The company to assemble on the practice-ground at a quarter before eleven o'clock. Carriages of the Royal Family, and those with tickets, only, can be allowed to enter the practice-ground, the space admitting of not more than fifty. The carriages without tickets to draw up on the Plumstead-road, east of the entrance-gate, with their heads towards Woolwich.* Intelligent orderlies will be stationed on the road to direct the carriages from Greenwich.

* Officers on horseback in uniform will be admitted into the practice-ground. All other persons wishing for admission must enter on foot; first obtaining permission from the Officer of Artillery at the gate.

ORDER OF FIRING, &c.—1. To commence by firing thirty 12-pr. rockets from a tube at the target, range 1200 yards. To be followed by practice from a 10-inch and three 8-inch guns, and one 10-inch howitzer, firing three rounds each at the target, range 1200 yards. 2. The 24 and 18-pr. guns at the Traversing Gun-battery to fire three rounds each at the target, range 950 yards. 3. Fourteen guns of Horse and Field-Artillery to fire three rounds each at the target, range 650 yards. Six-pounder rocket practice at the target, range 650 yards, in the following order:—1. A volley of ten rockets. 2. From tubes, twenty ditto. 3. A volley of ten ditto. 4. From tubes, twenty ditto. 5. A volley of twenty ditto. 4. Proceed from practice-ground to the Arsenal, and visit the saw-mill, store-houses, and carriage department. Carriages admitted to the practice-ground will be allowed to pass through the Arsenal, no others. 5. From the Arsenal drive to the Common, where the Horse and Field-Artillery will be inspected in line, and trot past; the Horse-Artillery will then gallop past, after which the Field-Artillery will perform a succession of manœuvres, to be followed by manœuvres of the Horse-Artillery. 6. Proceed to the Royal Military Repository to visit the model-room and see the manœuvres of Heavy Artillery. None but the Royal carriages will be admitted into the Repository. Should time permit, after viewing the Repository, there will be mortar-practice. 7. The company invited to breakfast will then proceed to the mess-room, either on foot or horseback, or in their carriages, as they may deem most convenient. All persons are earnestly requested to keep at all times within the sentries, and especially during the practice and exercise in the field. 8. The non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Royal Artillery and Royal Sappers and Miners, with their families, to assemble at a dinner on the barrack field, given by the Master-General and the officers.

Our correspondent writes as follows:—

MR. EDITOR,—A great deal of importance was attached to the display on the 5th, as may easily be imagined by the fact of a Regiment of Cavalry and one hundred policemen having been ordered down, together with a battalion of Rifles and detachment of Marines quartered here, to keep order among the numbers of people that it was expected would flock to the spot; and this proved by no means a superfluous precaution, for I never saw such numbers here on any former occasion.

The proceedings of the day may be divided into three parts. First, a display of the usual Artillery exercises, before all the great personages of foreign nations that the season has drawn to London. Next, the entertainment of them, and numerous other guests, by the Master-General of the Ordnance, at a *déjeûné*. And, thirdly, the regaling of all the non-commissioned officers and men, with their wives and families, with a good substantial dinner of beef and pudding and plenty of beer, with sports and pastimes in the barrack-field. This extended to the two Ordnance corps, and was given by the Master-General and the Officers of the Artillery and Engineers. The same was done on the occasion of the Coronation of George the Fourth.

I must remark, by the way, that the practice in the marshes and the exercises on the common are quite things of every-day occurrence; except, perhaps, as very often happens, through having the attention diverted, the practice was not quite so good as when there is not a soul to look at it. However, it was by no means bad. The firing was from heavy guns: that is, 10 and 8-inch and 24-pr., and with 12-pr. rockets at long ranges, from 1000 to 1200 yards; and from field-guns and with 6-pr. rockets at shorter ranges. The target was knocked down both by the heavy and light guns, and frequently hit. The Master-General's party, on leaving the practice-ground in the marshes, passed through the Arsenal, but without delaying to see the establishments there, to the common, and saw a very good exhibition of our manœuvres of Field-Artillery, both by the Horse-Artillery and Field-Batteries.

I cannot attempt an enumeration of those who were the Master-General's guests at his *déjeûné*. There were the Duke de Nemours, the Duke of Saxe Coburg, Prince Christian of Holstein, as well as members of other royal or reigning families of the Continent; most of the Ambassadors Extraordinary, including Marshal Soult, with their suites; many of the most distinguished characters of the day of our own country, political, without regard to party, military, and miscellaneous, and a great many officers of the regiment, with their families, in all, very little short of 600; and every one sat down with as ample accommodation as if it had been only an ordinary-sized party. There was an immense space covered in by means of a large temporary room which is used for the balls, and some very large and handsome tents. The length, from the entrance to the extremity of the mess-room, was about 150 feet, and the breadth, in one part, where the tents formed, as it were, a kind of transept, branching from a large circular tent, in the centre, was nearly 100 feet. At another part a long gallery-tent, pitched across the direction of the entrance, and dressed out with flowers and evergreens, looked like a long vista of bowers. In the immediate front of the mess-room, the entrance, which is a handsome Grecian portico, with four columns and a pilaster at each end, was ornamented with figures in handsome armour, placed on pedestals, one in front of each column; and the other parts of the portico were also decorated with banners, trophies, escutcheons, &c. The outside, with its numerous ridges and peaks, some with glittering gilt balls and points, every here and there flags waving amongst them, and on each side of the main entrance the union flags towering over all, on two very lofty flag-staves, had a very striking effect.

The fare was very good, and the guests did justice to it. One toast—the Queen of England, God bless her!—one short speech, with a feeling allusive to the memory of his late Majesty, coupling it with the recollection of some former festivities in the same place, and with happy anticipations from the present season of auspicious promise, closed this scene.

The Master-General had done the honours of his station, publicly, by an exhibition of the objects of interest of the department over which he presides; and, privately, by a most liberal and splendid display of his courtesy and hospitality. He and the principal guests rose and left the room, and were quickly followed by all the rest, except a few lingerers, who seemed anxious to extend their enjoyment of the good cheer as far as decorum would permit: however, the rooms and tents were very soon cleared, and many of the principal personages proceeded to London, where other pleasures awaited them. The Master-General, however, and numerous others, stayed to witness the scene in the barrack-field, which was a most exhilarating one: a square, nearly as large as Russell-square, was marked out, and its four sides occupied by two rows of tables, all covered with clean white table-cloths, and laid out in the most comfortable-looking manner for dinner, through the whole extent; in the centre, round a gun and flag-staff, tables were placed for the band, who were to adjourn to their station there as soon as their attendance on the Master-General's party should be dispensed with; and along one side of the square a battery of field-guns was drawn up, and entirely manned by officers of the regiment, who fired a royal salute when the soldiers drank the Queen's health, which was done most heartily and uproariously; the guns could hardly be heard for the cheering. The number of men, women, and children, that sat down to dinner was little short of 5000; every oven in the neighbourhood had been in requisition; and there was a pile of porter-butts posted at each angle of the square.

After the Master-General's party broke up there was a crowd of spectators promenading the square composed of many of those who had been the Master-General's guests, and the officers of the regiments with their families and friends, and the crowd on the line outside the boundary was immense; but, of course, all promiscuous access to the barrack-field was

strictly guarded against. It was heart-stirring and cheering to witness the universal good-humour that prevailed; every human frame seemed to be saturated with fun to the full extent of its capacity for it. The officers went about among the men tasting their pudding, and drinking some of their porter to their healths; and every now and then a cheer sprung up from some particular part of the square—as, perhaps, the immediate Commanding-officer of those by whom it was occupied, or some old officer whom promotion or other circumstances had removed from them, came to hail them with his greeting.

I cannot think that this kind of relaxation is injurious to discipline. It proves to the men that their officers are not indifferent to their happiness, and that they are ready to contribute to their pleasures, and to share them with them; and induces them to conclude that the severities of which they are occasionally the instruments, are no more than the necessary restraints of the state of society to which they have voluntarily devoted themselves.

There were various pastimes after the dinner was over, and the porter-butts had been pretty well drained. There was a foot-race admirably contested by a champion from each battalion; then a donkey-race, the donkeys being ridden by drummers round a course fenced in by ropes outside the square—a capital Donkodrome! There was a pole well greased, with a leg of mutton on the top, a tempting prize for a gang of chimney-sweeps, who seemed for a long time to have the best chance, and many an eager urchin grasped the pole, and strained his every nerve, till streams of perspiration made lily furrows down his sooty phiz—

“Then half-mast high the sable lump would cling,
And many an anxious look aloft would fling;
At length, dead beat, the pole slides through his hands,
And down, chop-fall’n, amid the crowd he stands.”

How this ended I don’t know, but I suppose they bagged the mutton by hook or by crook. But there was another department of the revels which had great attractions for them: a waggon-load of them, with their arms tied behind them, was drawn about the ground; penny-rolls, well smeared and dripping with treacle, dangling over their heads; a fine field for displaying at once the expansibility and tenaciousness of their jaws; they jumped and snapped at the rolls with great perseverance, and elicited roars of laughter. Then there was a pig with his tail soaped, to be the property of whoever should, with one arm tied behind him, fairly catch and firmly hold said pig by said tail, and no otherwise; and brief, no doubt, was the time of his transition from pig to pork. These and minor sports lasted till nightfall; then came a handsome display of fireworks well worthy of our Pyrotechnical department; the drums beat “Go to bed, Tom,” and away we all went—Tom, John, Harry, and all of us—well tired and well amused, to bed.

This feasting of the soldiers was a part of the play which had been in agitation long before we had heard anything about the grand display and *déjeûné*; and their all being joined on one day was a most happy combination—it made it a day of universal entertainment, and, as is always naturally the case, that when exhibitions are made for great personages, the personages themselves become the principal attraction to the multitude of sight-seers, so it was on this occasion; but of all the attractions for the honours of the public gaze—for the meed of the noisy acclamation of the thousand—Marshal Soult was the head and front—he was decidedly king of the lions for the day; and many a good old soldier, too, was there, whose heart owned other feelings than such empty and superficial admiration, and, with a throng of intensely-interesting recollections rushing through his mind, hailed with his cordial greeting him who in many a bloody struggle had been the most able and intrepid of our opponents.

The Coronation Brevet, though of slender and tantalizing dimensions, is still a boon in its way. The service, which since the peace has been

suffered to sink into secondary importance, not by the people, who remember that every man had done his duty, but by the people's governors, who seem to have forgotten that memorable fact, must accept its arrears by instalments—the smallest donation must be thankfully received. Some few old General Officers have been advanced a step, and a handful of Colonels have become Major-Generals. The limit to the promotion of this latter rank appears arbitrary and vexatious, but it is not so intentionally. The year 1830, from which the Colonels were to be taken, though, perhaps, as rich as any which has been ever known in men of merit, still comprised too large a number for the scanty means placed at the disposal of the General Commanding-in-Chief; and, as a line was to be drawn somewhere, it was found advisable to stop at the Lieutenant-Colonels of 1812, who terminated with Colonel Evans, of the 70th. But here is the rub. Why were such inadequate means assigned for so important and popular an object? It would be absurd to suppose that the military authorities were not interested in the distribution of justice to their clients, and we have reason to believe that Lord Howick feels every disposition to befriend a service of which he wears, by inheritance, a laurel. To what, then, are we to ascribe this penury towards the most faithful and valuable servants of the State, if it be not to the prodigality exercised towards its most worthless parasites, and the lavish expenditure on idle missions and commissions, with unhallowed loans, or rather gifts for the promotion of civil war, and the propagation of anarchy and brigandism throughout the world? Thus are the resources which should be applied to the relief and reward of the national forces frittered away and crippled; and thus it is that the British sailor or soldier may starve or rot in obscurity, that my Lord Noodle, or Mr. Doodle, may wear a red ribbon—the guerdon of the highest military merit—or that the “innocent Isabella” may prattle in peace!

It is to be regretted that this Brevet created so few regimental steps; but had there been no Brevet there could have been no steps. In this respect the Navy fared better than their comrades of the Army; a considerable share of promotion was allotted to the lower ranks, as many as 35 Commanders, 50 Lieutenants, 60 Mates, and 24 Assistant-Surgeons, having been promoted to the superior grade. The Flag promotions were as limited, comparatively, as those of the Army.

• That the wants of the Service imperatively demand some adjustment of these inequalities is obvious, and, as the task has devolved on the Commission of Inquiry, we trust that competent body will strike out a satisfactory remedy for so crying an evil.

• Still there is no grievance or subject into which, at the present day, a certain proportion of cant does not enter. We hear much of the “working members” of the Service—that is, of the officers actually enjoying full-pay, with all its advantages and emoluments, in contradistinction with their seniors, who, having brought the Army to its highest pass, were thrown overboard by reduction, their juniors stepping into their shoes.

The officers of the Army must be classed in two bodies—those of the war and of the peace; of the former a number still remain on full-pay, but many of course are reduced—a few driven to that alternative by wounds and despondency—but the larger portion having succumbed to the ruthless flail of reduction, by which they were, in their own despite, beaten down from every possession, interest, and prospect which renders

their profession of value. It will be the first duty of the Commission to give their attention to the relief and to the reward, by the creation or extension of a suitable honour, of the officers of the war both, on full and half-pay; to exclude the latter from any contemplated benefits would be an act of the most signal injustice and folly; and till the whole class, forming as they do the oldest officers of the Army, are duly provided for, it is unreasonable to expect that the Service can be satisfied.

Next come the officers of the peace, amongst whom are many comparatively old, and a crowd of excellent officers, having from twenty to ten years' standing. When, however, we consider the great improvements which have taken place in all the stations and duties of the Service, the facilities for relaxation afforded by the Depôts and Staff appointments, and for promotion by the "Unattached," the routine of a "working member" of some ten or twelve years' standing cannot have been so arduous as certain pretensions injudiciously put forward in his behalf would fain assume; and while we heartily trust the really working men of all ranks and stages may be adequately and amply considered, we must claim for the officers, soldiers, and sailors of the war a preference over those who have succeeded them in the less perilous duties of a peace-establishment.

It is clear, however, that a positive distinction should be made between voluntary and involuntary half-pay, especially when personal convenience suggested the former, and the system of dodging to shirk service has been resorted to; but in how many cases have old officers been compelled by infirmities contracted in the Service to apply for half-pay, and abandon their professional income and prospects? Those who have continued to seek employment, after involuntary reduction, should also be distinguished. It will not be difficult to sift the real drones.

A remarkable instance of inequality in promotion and unfairness to the older officers, has been exhibited in the classes of Captains promoted to the rank of Major in the Brevets of the last and present years. In the space of one twelvemonth, the Captain of 1813 and 1814 found himself side by side as Major with the Captain of 1825; the latter having, as it were, overleaped the space of twelve years, through which the former had toiled. We are far from objecting to the promotion of the Captain of 1825, who had served quite long enough in that capacity, but it is manifest that the Captain who was twelve years his senior should have had some proportionate advancement.

Our limits compel us to close these observations for the present, but the theme is fertile, and we shall take an opportunity of resuming it. In the mean time, we commend the interests of the Service to the deliberations and good feeling of the Commission.

The promotions and appointments in the Order of the Bath, which have excited much speculation for the last month, have at length appeared, and are of course discussed with the usual temper of success or disappointment. Impartially viewing these lists, and excluding the civil and diplomatic appointments, we detect but few sins of commission, beyond the political influence to be traced in some of the nominations; in other respects the catalogue includes many as good names as we can boast—but the sins of omission are, it must be confessed, crying. Where it would be invidious, perhaps mischievous, to particularize, we refrain.

There is no reason, however, why we should not echo the deep and general dissatisfaction of the Naval and Military Services at the misappropriation of the highest class of this Order, which is observable in the non-military appointments. No one objects to the granting distinctions to political or civil *employés*, who may be supposed to have earned them, but it is contended that Fighting Orders ought not to be bestowed on non-combatants, for whom there are various other available honours. Two of the parties, though officers (the one a Colonel, the other a Captain), and most estimable men, are far too young in military rank for a distinction conferred on the highest grades of their profession; and we doubt even whether any of the persons thus incongruously decorated will derive unmixed pleasure from the display of insignia destined to point a different moral. The radical faults of this Order is, that it is limited to rank, and placed above the reach of those who distinguished themselves in subaltern capacities. No true soldier covets an honour to which he may not be entitled; but how welcome would be a distinction which he could wear without question! A fourth class of the bath would effect this object.

The Honourable Company's officers, we are happy to see, have shared largely in these promotions and honours; the best men, we conclude, men who have seen fire, have been selected for the latter. We trust our brethren of the East may accept this liberality as it is doubtless intended, and allow that in everything but exile and hard knocks the Royal troops do not always carry off the lion's share.

As to the flight of minor honours let off on this merry-making occasion, we can only liken it to an item of the Coronation pyrotechnics: "Largesse, largesse, lieges," quoth the exhibitor to the crowd; "a flight of rockets charged with night-hoods is going up, uncover your heads,—and look out." Whiz goes the flight, and down come its contents, bobbing their way through the dark, and alighting "promiscuously" on good, bad, and indifferent.

Marshal Soult has been *fêted*, and treated to sights and excursions of all sorts, including a rapid railway trip to Liverpool, during his brief sojourn in this country, to the very natural chagrin, *on dit*, of his colleagues the other Ambassadors Extraordinary. It must be observed, however, that this preference for Marshal Soult is purely *personal*, not national. He is a foreign General whose name belongs to history, and whose most brilliant attempts and most signal discomfitures occurred in conflict with the British arms, directed by a leader who closed the most gigantic war ever waged, by the utter defeat of the only man capable of being his rival. It is to such associations that the eminent Frenchman is indebted for the generous courtesies of the British people, whom, in return, he is pleased to describe as "*une race superbe*." The Marshal was expected to take his departure for France on the night of the 28th ultimo.

For ourselves, as the organ of the United Service of Great Britain, having so far performed towards Marshal Soult the part which civility enjoins towards a distinguished military visitor, we may probably show, next month, that we have the will and the means to set his partisans and countrymen right on points affecting the honour of the British arms. We, of course, advocate relations of amity between England and France, but ridicule the chimera of a sincere and indissoluble union

between the two countries, which position, interests, temperament, the bitterness of defeat, and the rivalry of centuries combine to endanger. The French national press instructs us on this head, though we had not experience to guide us.

Affairs, both in the East and West, look threatening. In the former, an expedition, composed of a frigate, a brig, two steamers, and a Government transport, conveying 500 Sepoys, under the command of Colonel Sherriff, was despatched from Bombay on the 2nd or 5th of June, by instructions from home, for Bushire, up the Persian Gulf, to protect British interests in that quarter, should they be compromised by the unsettled state of affairs in central Asia. The Persians were still before Herat, which is a strong place; but there is no truth in the report that the Russians had taken military possession of Tehran, where they have no garrison.

In Canada outrages continue, especially on the lakes, which are infested by gangs of freebooters, led by one Johnson, a bold outlaw. A British steamer, called the Sir Robert Peel, was seized and burnt by these pirates. Lord Durham had assumed the reins of Government, and Sir John Colburne had resigned, probably from ill health and long service in that country—it may be, in disgust.

The following is from a correspondent in that quarter :

1st June.

You have heard much of the disturbances in Upper Canada, and of the causes which led to them; but have you heard a plain candid statement, divested of all party feelings? for I have seen some very extraordinary and incorrect accounts. The villanous speeches and publications of Mackenzie and his companions did all the mischief, by poisoning the minds of the people, and making a happy and contented peasantry believe they were in a state of slavery. I like opposition; it has done much good, and has contributed greatly to make England the powerful nation that she is; but there is a wide difference between moderate opposition, and downright sedition. Mackenzie, the leader of the faction, was not the high-minded, disinterested patriot, willing to sacrifice everything for the good of his country; he was but a selfish, intriguing, cunning fellow; courting popularity, abusing the Government, but never losing sight of his individual interest. Many American citizens were settled in the province; though they left their native land, they brought with them their republican principles; and, instead of displaying gratitude to that country where they were hospitably received, they were constantly reviling our Government, and drawing comparisons unfavourable to the British Empire: such fellows cannot be expected to make good subjects; they have no business here; we do not want them; and if dissatisfied with our Government, climate, or soil, let them return to their own side of the lines. The leaders of the late rebellion, though possessing many advantages, an excellent opportunity, and the sympathy and countenance of certain powerful neighbours, committed a great error in overrating their abilities, and the number of their adherents. They expected that, when their deluded followers were in arms, the whole country would rise and join them; the country did rise, but it was to crush them, and to assert their strong attachment to the British constitution. Though in some parts of the province the discontented had the audacity to appear in arms, the grand display of loyalty made by the thousands that left their homes and peaceable occupations at that inclement season, and took the field in defence of their constitutional rights, must let our friends in England see that we are not all the disaffected beings that we have been represented. It has been argued by some men, that England ought to withdraw her protection from Canada; fortunately the influence of these gentlemen is not great, for it

would be an act of bad policy, of injustice, and cruelty : it certainly would gratify most of the French and American inhabitants, but it would blight the prospects of those of British extraction, and would oblige many to suffer severely for their loyalty, and look out for other homes. Though far from the land that gave us birth, we are still in the British dominions. Judge, then, how it would harrow the feelings of our old veterans, and worthy emigrants, to be cast off, and considered citizens or subjects of a foreign country. When the insurgents were dispersed, such as were not captured fled to the United States, and on their way endured many privations ; they were generally considered objects of pity, and many of them expressed bitter regret for the imprudent part they had acted, and which had been the means of banishing them from their comfortable homes ; but as soon as they arrived in the great republic, they began to vent their enmity against our Government, and to make preparations for returning to the province in a hostile manner. Public meetings were held in most of the towns and villages bordering Canada, for the purpose of rendering assistance to the Canadian rebels, and enabling them to carry on their plans. They were soon well supplied with such things as they required ; they obtained arms from the public arsenals and forts, and on some occasions troops in the service of the United States connived at their proceedings ; and we were threatened with an attack from a quarter where, if faith is to be placed in treaties, we had no reason to expect it.

In the beginning of January the inhabitants of the western frontiers of Upper Canada were called upon to prepare for a struggle ; intelligence had been received that an armed force, composed mostly of American citizens, intended to invade the province. It was delightful to see the alacrity, loyalty, and enthusiasm displayed on that occasion. The weather was particularly unfavourable, yet in a few hours almost every man was at his post, though many of them had to travel from ten to fifteen miles, through roads which in Europe would be deemed impassable at any season. We were badly supplied with arms and ammunition ; there was not one bayonet in the small corps with which I served ; some were armed with rifles, some with fowling-pieces, and others with pikes. We were kept on constant duty nearly three months, but never came in contact with an enemy, though we often had reports that they were coming, and were reviled and threatened : the self-styled patriots (marauding thieves) used to brag that they would cross the river and whip the d—d Tories.

The Americans are great people for calculating and guessing, so they probably calculated the chances of success, and guessed the result of a conflict would be unfavourable to them. I am unwilling to entertain a bad opinion of the Americans generally, indeed I know many of them disapprove of these lawless proceedings ; but those residing on their frontiers could be no credit to any country. The rebels took possession of some islands in the neighbourhood of Sandwich, but were driven from them without much trouble. I do not want war ; it is attended with many evils ; but I would rather have it, with all its horrors, than see the honour of Old England tarnished ; and if our allies, regardless of their treaties, make war upon us again, we must not be required to act merely on the defensive. It would be easy with a few rockets to destroy their frontier towns, and raise the price of their "lumber." Let us hope that Her Majesty's Government will send a good supply of arms to her loyal Canadian Militia and Volunteers, that we may in future be better enabled to do our duty.

These disturbances may tend to injure the province for a time, by preventing men of capital from coming among us ; but such as are disposed to emigrate, yet anxious to remain under the protection of the British Government, ought rather to be inspired with confidence, when they know that in Upper Canada at least nine-tenths of the inhabitants were true to their allegiance, and determined to support the constitution. No one possessing truly British principles can ever wish to grant what the discontented are striving to obtain—the members of the Legislative Council to

be chosen by the people; it would be encroaching too much upon the royal prerogative, destroying our excellent constitution, and encouraging them to make more unreasonable demands. But as our Governors are generally entire strangers to the province previous to their arrival in it, and are therefore liable to make or recommend injudicious appointments, would it not be well if the Secretary of State for the Colonies would lay it down as a rule, that no one should be honoured with a seat in the Legislative Council, who had not been returned at least three times to the House of Assembly. This would leave ample scope for choice, and those obnoxious to Government would of course be excluded, the Council would be composed of men well acquainted with the resources and wants of the country; and these men having been so often chosen to the Lower House, we must suppose, of course, they once possessed the confidence of the people, or considerable influence over them. *

LIST OF ROYAL YACHT SQUADRON FOR THE PRESENT SEASON.

A Union Jack with white border hoisted over or between Numeral Flags refers to the Members' Numbers—under them expresses the Names of the Honorary Members.

The Jack between the Numeral Flags from 1 to 99 denotes the Names under 100, and the Jack above the Numeral Flags, the Names above 100; for this purpose only the Jack itself, when hoisted above the Numeral Flags, will count 100—thus, if No. 100 be required, hoist Jack above, Cypher next, and first substitute under. If No. 101, hoist Jack above, Cypher next, No. 1 under. If No. 110, Jack above, No. 1 in the middle, and Cypher under, &c.

The Union Jack without a White Border hoisted under a Signal shows that it refers to the Navy List in the Signal Book.

The Navy demand to show Numbers. A Union Jack over a Pendant quartered Red and White.

HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Commodore—The Right Honourable the Earl of Yarborough.

Vice-Commodore—The Right Honourable the Earl of Belfast.

JACK BETWEEN.

Private No.	Name.	Vessel.	Class.	Tonnage.		Port.
				Old.	New.	
1	Anglesey, Marquis of	Pearl	cutter	130		Southton
2	Ashbrooke, Viscount					
3	Belmore, Earl of					
4	Challen, Stephen, Esq.	Norna	schooner	46		Dartmouth
5	Curtis, Sir William, Bart.	Phantom	cutter	56		Ramsgate
6	Coventry, Earl of	Ariel	cutter	71		Cowes
7	de Grey, Earl	Nautilus	cutter	103		Cowes
8	Gulston, Joseph, Esq.	Nelson	cutter	93		London
9	Hallifax, Thomas, Esq.					
10	Hamond, Rear-Admiral Sir G. E. Bt. K.C.B.					
11	Hare, Hon. William H.	Ann	cutter	42		Southton
12	Lindgren, John, Esq.	Vampire	cutter	49		Portsmouth
13	Admiralty, First Lord of	Admiralty Yacht	cutter			London
15	Yarborough, The Earl of (Comm.)	Kestrel	cutter	156	97	Cowes
16	Puleston, Sir Richard, Bart.					
17	Shedden, Colonel	Merlin	schooner	104	64	Southton
18	Thomond, Marquis of					
19	Weld, Joseph Esq.	Alarra	cutter	193		Southton
20	Weld, James, Esq.	Lord of the Isles	cutter	45		Southton
21	Fleming, John, Esq., M.P.	Elizabeth	cutter	66		Southton
23	Williams, Thos. P., Esq., M.P.	Hussar	schooner	120		Beaumaris
		Gazelle	cutter	87		Beaumaris
24	Maxse, James, Esq.					
25	Powell, J. F., Esq.					
26	Willoughby de Broke, Lord					
27	White, Hon. W. H.					
28	Saunders, William H., Esq.					
29	Norfolk, Duke of, K.G.					

Private No.	Name.	Vessel.	Class.	Tonnage.		Port.
				Old.	New.	
30	Talbot, C. R. M., Esq., M.P.	Galatea.	schboner	190		Southton
31	Regemont, Earl of	Jasetta	schooner	110		Shorcham
32	Herringham, Capt. W. A., R.N.					
33	Allen, Thomas, Esq.	Erin	schooner	94		Lynn
34	Reynolds, J., Esq.					
36	Belfast, Earl of (Vice-Commodore)					
37	Copbet, Andrew W., Esq.	Hebe	cutter	68		Cowes
38	Orkney, Earl of	Jack O' Lantern	schooner	140		London
39	Fullerton, George A., Esq.					
40	George, Rev. Denis	Wave	cutter	54		Southton
41	Greville, Lieut.-Colonel Hon. R. F.					
42	Symonds, J. L. Esq.	Emerald	cutter	59		Cowes
43	Durham, Earl of, G.C.B.					
45	Rivers, Sir Henry, Bart.	Earl St. Vincent	cutter	41		Southton
46	Holchester, Earl of	Petrel	cutter	98		Southton
48	Thorold, Henry, Esq.					
49	Johnstone, Major-Gen. Sir Wm. K.C.B.	Mary	cutter	62		Southton
50	Portland, Duke of	Clown	ketch	156		Troon
51	Lyon, James, Esq.	Breeze	cutter	55	37	Portsmouth
52	Moore, John, Esq.	Reindeer	cutter	107	68	Cowes
53	Murray, Alexander, Esq.	Miranda	cutter	161		London
54	Byrne, Edward H., Esq.	Medora	cutter	47		
55	Heneage, G. W., Esq.	Harriet	cutter	67		Southton
56	Wilson, Sir Thomas M., Bart.	Syron	cutter	45		London
57	Garth, Capt. Thomas, R.N.					
58	Markham, Colonel William	Antelope	cutter	90		Rochester
59	Gower, John L., Esq.					
60	Light, Colonel					
61	Gibson, Thomas, Esq., M.P.					
63	Maxwell, Sir William, Bart.					
65	Kingscote, Colonel Robert	Nettle	cutter	57		Bristol
66	Saunderson, James, Esq.					
67	Clonbrock, Lord					
68	Kean, Capt. James, R.N.	Turk	cutter	44		Southampton
70	Brett, Charles, Esq.					
71	Pratt, Charles, Esq.	Psyche	cutter	60		Southton
72	Gell, Philip, Esq.	Albatross	cutter	75		Cowes
73	Meiklam, James, Esq.					
74	Day, Richard, Esq.					
75	Fleetwood, P. H., Esq., M.P.					
76	Buccleuch, Duke of, K.G.	Flower of Yarrow	cutter	145		Leith
77	Call, George C., Esq.	Hind	yawl	21		Plymouth
78	Pakington, J. S., Esq., M.P.					
79	Scott, Lord John, M.P.	Lufra	cutter	81		Cowes
80	DeLafeld, William, Esq.	Naiad	cutter	70		Cowes
81	Latham, William, Esq.					
82	Horaby, William, Esq.	Forester	cutter	31		Southton
83	Corry, Capt. A. L., R.N.					
84	Parker, Sir Hyde, Bart.	Turquoise	cutter	77		Cowes
85	Greg, Thomas, Esq.					
86	Greville, Algernon, Esq.	Spider	cutter	33		London
87	Kennedy, John, Esq.	Water Witch	cutter	44		Belfast
88	Morgan, George G., Esq.	Ann Eliza	brig	254		
89	Tollenache, John J., Esq.	Sapphire	cutter	70		Cowes
90	Wilton, Earl of	Xarifa	schooner	175		Cowes
91	Graves, Lord Thomas					
92	Upton, Lewis, Esq.					
93	Beach, William, Esq.	Aurora	cutter	40		Cowes
94	Hill, Almon, Esq.					
95	Congreve, John, Esq.					
96	Lane, Rev. Thomas Leveson					
98	Beaumont, Edward B., Esq.					
99	Waterford, Marquis of	Charlotte	brig	265		London

JACK ABOVE.

Private No	Name	Vessel	Class.	Tonnage.	Old.	New.	Port.
100	Robinson, Henry, Esq.	Sultana	cutter	49			Cowes
101	Moreton, The Hon. Augustus, Esq.	Elizabeth	cutter	65			Cowes
102	Pechell, Capt. Geo., R.N., M.P.						
103	Lyon, William, Esq.	Mischief	schooner	221			Cowes
104	de Horsey, Spent'er, Esq., M.P.	Union	cutter	48			Cowes
105	Webber, William, Esq.						
106	Loche, John H., Esq.	Nancy	cutter	59			Chester
108	Upton, The Hon. Henry	Sea Mew	lugger	31			Cowes
109	Bayley, John, Esq.	Nymph	cutter	31			Dover
110	Mill, Major Jas.	Noran	cutter	70	45		Cowes
111	Olive, Charles, Esq.	Phebe	lugger	33			Cowes
112	Smith, Charles, Esq.	Flower of Yarrow	schooner	129			Portsmouth
113	Bentinck, George, Esq.	Zephyr	cutter	55			London
114	French, Thomas George, Esq.	Rostellan	schooner	70	43		Cork
115	Ackland, Sir T. D. Bt., M.P.	Lady of St. Kilda	sch.	136			Dartmouth
116	Heneage, Edw., Esq., M.P.	Sparrowhawk	cutter	81			Cowes
117	Hibbert, John, Esq.						
118	Murray, Sir Arch. I., Bart.	Pell	cutter	59			Cowes
119	Egerton, Lord Francis, M.P.						
120	Godolphin, Lord	Airow	cutter	81			Southampton
121	Harland, Sir Robert, Bart.	Will o' the Wisp	cutter	45	26		Ipswich
122	Frankland, Richard, Esq.	Cynthia	cutter	40			Cowes
123	Meiklam, John, Esq.	Amukt	cutter	43			Cowes
124	Walker, Hon. H. F.	Emmetje	schooner	103			Galway
125	Graham, Sir B., Bart.	Theresa	cutter	121			Cowes
127	Brooke, James, Esq.	Royalist	schooner	142			London
128	Simpson, George, Esq.	Rowena	cutter	33	24		Southampton
129	Bagwell, John, Esq.	Corsair	cutter	85			Cork
130	Harvey, E.N., Esq.	Menai	brigantine	175			Cowes
131	Horner, Fortescue, Esq.	Heron	cutter	46			Cowes
132	Ackers, G. H., Esq.	Dolphin	schooner	210			Southampton
133	Pateison, Capt. Geo. Dacres	Zadara	cutter	32			Southampton
134	Vivian, Major C, M.P.						
135	Copley, Joseph, Esq.	Witch	cutter	70			Cowes
136	Meiklam, Robert, Esq.	Crusader	schooner	126	76		Cowes
137	Bulkeley, Sir R. B. W., Bart.	Iris	cutter	75			Cowes
138	Cooper, Richard W., Esq.	Kudora	cutter	59	42		Cowes
139	Anderson, John, Esq.	Guilna	cutter	42			Southampton
140	Smith-Barry, J. H., Esq.	Columbine	cutter	90			Cork
141	Tomline, George, Esq.	Gem	schooner	125			Cowes
142	Beaumont, T. W., Esq.	Wanderer	schooner	141	85		Cowes
143	Hasley, Thomas P., Esq.	Fanny	cutter	75			Cowes
144	Walsh, Sir John B., Bt., M.P.	Nulha	cutter	49			Cowes
145	Hall, Col. John	Owen Glenlwy	cutter	113			Cowes
146	Keane, Capt. George	Amazon	cutter	75			Cowes
147	Canning, Viscount	Zondola	schooner	111			Cowes
148	Magenis, Frederick R., Esq.	Gebra	cutter	51			
149	Hallifax, Thomas, Jun., Esq.	Ganymede	cutter	69			Cowes
150	Hart, Marmaduke, Esq.	Gradur	cutter	37			

Messrs. Sir Richard Bassett, Roe, and Blachford, Treasurers; the Rev. I. B. Atkinson, Chaplain; Charles Day, Esq., Surgeon; W. H. Banks, Esq., Honorary Surgeon; Monsieur Magnen, Agent, Cherbourg; Messrs. Violet and Co., Agents, Bordeaux; Henry Temple, Esq., Agent, Madeira; Messrs. Cotterel and Igou, Agents, Naples; Messrs. Macbean and Co., Agents, Leghorn; Messrs. Holme and Co., Agents, Venice; Alex. Greig and Co., Agents, Bergen; Messrs. Henry Dobrie and Co., Agents, Guernsey; John Christian Scheikf, Esq., Marine Painter; Mr. Grant Preston, Compass Maker; Messrs. Ferguson and Hillman, Mast Makers; Mr. George Stebbing, Optician; John Bates, R.N., Secretary.

STATIONS OF THE BRITISH ARMY ON 1ST AUGUST, 1838.

[Where two places are mentioned, the last named is that at which the Depot of the Regt is stationed.]

1st Life Guards—Regent's Park.	39th Foot—Madras; Chatham.
2nd do.—Hyde Park.	40th do.—Bombay; Chatham.
Royal Horse Guards—Windsor.	41st do.—Madras; Chatham.
1st Dragoon Guards—Canada; Coventry.	42nd do.—Dublin.
2nd do.—Newbridge.	43rd do.—Canada; Dover.
3rd do.—Manchester.	44th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
4th do.—Ipswich.	45th do.—Canterbury.
5th do.—York.	46th do.—Gibraltar; Devonport.
6th do.—Dorchester.	47th do.—Malta; Portsmouth.
7th do.—Edinburgh.	48th do.—Cork, ordered for Gibraltar.
1st Dragoon Co.—Cork.	49th do.—Bengal; Chatham.
2nd do.—Dublin.	50th do.—New South Wales; Chatham.
3rd do.—Bengal.	51st do.—Chatham; Van Diemen's Land.
4th do.—Bombay.	52nd do.—Gibraltar; Newcastle, ord. for W. Ind.
6th do.—Cahir.	53rd do.—Ionian Isles; Dublin.
7th Hussars—Canada; Coventry.	54th do.—Madras; Chatham.
8th do.—Dublin.	55th do.—Madras; Chatham.
9th Lancers—Leeds.	56th do.—Jamaica; Sheerness.
10th Hussars—Hunslow.	57th do.—Madras; Chatham.
11th Light Dragoons—Canterbury.	58th do.—Ceylon; Fethard, ordered home.
12th Lancers—Brighton.	59th do.—Malta; Mullingar.
13th Light Dragoons—Madras.	60th do. (1st batt.)—Cork; Hull.
14th do.—Birmingham.	Do. (2nd batt.)—Cork; Jersey.
15th Hussars—Glasgow.	61st do.—Ceylon; Clonmel, ordered home.
16th Lancers—Bengal.	62nd do.—Madras; Chatham.
17th do.—Dublin.	63rd do.—Madras; Chatham.
Grenadier Guards (1st batt.)—St. George's B.	64th do.—Jamaica; Londonderry.
Do. (2nd battalion)—Canada.	65th do.—America; Nassau.
Do. (3rd battalion)—Portman B.	66th do.—Canada; Youghal.
Coldstream Guards (1st batt.)—Windsor.	67th do.—W. Indies; Chatham.
Do. (2nd battalion)—Canada.	68th do.—Jamaica; Waterford.
Sc. Fusilier Guards (1st batt.)—Wellington B.	69th do.—W. Indies; Cork.
Do. (2nd battalion)—St. John's Wd.	70th do.—W. Indies; Guernsey.
1st Foot (1st battalion)—Edinburgh.	71st do.—Canada; Cork.
Do. (2nd battalion)—Canada; Plymouth.	72nd do.—Cape of Good Hope; Palaley.
2nd do.—Bombay; Chatham.	73rd do.—America; Olare Castle.
3rd do.—Bengal; Chatham.	74th do.—West Indies; Aberdeen.
4th do.—Madras; Chatham.	75th do.—Cape of Good Hope; Boyle.
5th do.—Ionian Isles; Portsmouth.	76th do.—W. Indies; Drogheda.
6th do.—Bombay; Chatham.	77th do.—Malta; Galway.
7th do.—Dublin.	78th do.—Glasgow.
8th do.—Jamaica; Cork.	79th do.—Dublin.
9th do.—Bengal; Chatham.	80th do.—N. S. Wales; Chatham.
10th do.—Templemore.	81st do.—Gibraltar; Carisle.
11th do.—Bermuda; Chatham, ordered home.	82nd do.—Gibraltar; Cork.
12th do.—Mauritius; Trafal.	83rd do.—Canada; Chester Castle.
13th do.—Bengal; Chatham.	84th do.—Portsmouth.
14th do.—West Indies; Brecon.	85th do.—Canada; Plymouth.
15th do.—Canada; Plymouth.	86th do.—Stockport.
16th do.—Bengal; Chatham.	87th do.—Mauritius; Castlebar.
17th do.—Bombay; Chatham.	88th do.—Bolton.
18th do.—Ceylon; Newbridge.	89th do.—West Indies; Gosport.
19th do.—Rilkenny.	90th do.—Ceylon; Portsmouth.
20th do.—Weedon.	91st do.—St. Helena; Dundee.
21st do.—Van Diemen's Land; Chatham.	92nd do.—Malta; Nenagh.
22nd do.—Belfast.	93rd do.—America; Buttevant.
23rd do.—America; Armagh.	94th do.—Cork, ordered for Ceylon.
24th do.—Canada; Gosport.	95th do.—Newry, ordered for Ceylon.
25th do.—Limerick.	96th do.—Dublin.
26th do.—Bengal; Chatham.	97th do.—Birr.
27th do.—Cape of G. Hope, Dover.	98th do.—Manchester.
28th do.—N. S. Wales; Chatham.	99th do.—Aithlone.
29th do.—Plymouth.	Rifle Regt. (1st batt.)—Tower.
30th do.—Bermuda; Sunderland.	Do. (2nd batt.)—Woolwich.
31st do.—Bengal; Chatham.	Royal Staff Corps—Hythe.
32nd do.—Canada; Fermoy.	1st West India Regiment—St. Lucia, &c.
33rd do.—Gibraltar; Drogheda.	2nd do.—New Providence and Honduras.
34th do.—Canada; Fermoy.	Ceylon Rifle Regiment—Ceylon.
35th do.—Mauritius; Stirling.	Cape Mounted Riflemen—Cape of Good Hope.
36th do.—W. Indies; Cork, ord. for America.	Royal African Colonial Corps—Sierra Leone.
37th do.—Jamaica; Cork.	Royal Newfoundland Veteran Comp.—Newfd.
38th do.—Enniskillen.	Royal Malta Fencibles—Malta.

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STATIONS OF THE ROYAL NAVY IN COMMISSION 1st AUGUST, 1838.

- Atina**, 6, sur. v. Capt. A. T. E. Vidal, Coast of Africa.
African, st. sur. v. Capt. F. W. Beechey, Coast of Ireland.
Alban, st. v. Lieut. E. B. Tining, W. Indies.
Algerine, 10, Lieut. W. & Thomas, East Indies.
Alligator, 28, Capt. Sir J. J. G. Brewster, C.B., K.C.H., Australia.
Andromache, 28, Captain R. L. Baynes, C.B., West Indies.
Arrow, 10, Lieut. B. J. Sullivan, Portsmouth.
Asia, 84, Capt. W. Fisher, Mediterranean.
Astrea, 6, Capt. J. H. Plumridge, Falmouth.
Barham, 50, Capt. A. L. Corry, Mediterranean.
Basilik, 6, Ketch, Lieut. G. G. Macdonald, South America.
Beacon, 6, sur. v. Lieut. T. Graves, Medit.
Beagle, 10, sur. v. Com. J. C. Wickham, Australia.
Bellerophon, 80, Captain C. J. Austen, Medit.
Blazer, st. v. Lieut. J. M. Waugh, Medit.
Bonetta, 3, Lieut. J. L. R. Stoll, Coast of Africa.
Boxer, st. v. Capt. F. Bullock, par. ser.
Brisk, 3, Lieut. A. Kellott, Coast of Africa.
Britannia, 120, Adm. P. C. H. Duham, G.C.B., Capt. H. Dundas, Portsmouth.
Britomart, 10, Lieut. O. Stanley, Australia.
Brune, 22, Captain J. Clavel, Chatham.
Calliope, 28, Captain T. Herbert, S. America.
Carysfort, 26, Capt. H. B. Martin, Medit.
Castor, 36, Capt. E. Collier, Mediterranean.
Ceylon, 3, Lieut. ———, rec. sh. Malta.
Champion, 18, Com. G. St. V. King, W. Indies.
Charybdis, 3, Lieut. Hon. R. Gore, West Indies.
Cleopatra, 36, Capt. Hon. G. Grey, S. America.
Clio, 16, Capt. W. Richardson, Mediterranean.
Cockatrice, 6, Lieut. J. Douglas, S. America.
Columbine, 16, Com. G. Elliot, Chatham.
Comet, st. v. Lieut. G. T. Gordon, par. ser.
Comus, 18, Com. Hon. F. P. Cary, West Indies.
Constance, st. v. Lieut. E. Stopford, Medit.
Conway, 28, Capt. C. R. Drinkwater Bethune, East Indies.
Cornwallis, 74, Vice-Adm. Hon. Sir C. Paget, G.C.H., Capt. Sir R. Grant, Kt., W. Indies.
Crocodile, 28, Capt. Ja. Polkinghorne, West Indies.
Cruiser, 16, Com. R. H. King, East Indies.
Curtlew, 10, Com. E. Norcott, Coast of Africa.
Der, st. v. Com. Jo. Sherer, K.H., West Indies.
Dido, 18, Capt. L. Davies, C.B., Mediterranean.
Dolphin, 3, Lieut. F. Campbell, C. of Africa.
Donegal, 78, Rear-Adm. Sir J. A. Ommanney, Capt. J. Drake, Lisbon station.
Echo, st. v. Lieut. W. James, West Indies.
Edinburgh, 74, Capt. W. W. Henderson, K.H., Portsmouth.
Electra, 18, Com. W. Preston, South America.
Espoir, 10, Lieut. J. T. Paulson, Lisbon.
Excellent, 76, Capt. T. Hastings, Portsmouth.
Fair Rosamond, Lieut. W. B. Oliver, Coast of Africa.
Fairy, 10, sur. v. Capt. W. Hewett, Woolwich.
Favorgite, 18, Com. W. Croker, East Indies.
Firefly, st. v. Lieut. J. Pearce, Mediterranean.
Flamer, st. v. Lieut. J. M. Potbury, W. Indies.
Fly, 18, Capt. R. Elliott, South America.
Forester, 3, Com. C. G. E. Napier, Coast of Africa.
Griffon, 3, Lieut. J. G. D'Urban, West Indies.
Harlequin, 16, Capt. J. E. Erskine, Mediterranean.
Harpy, 10, Lieut. J. S. Ellman, West Indies.
Harrier, 18, Com. W. H. H. Carew, S. America.
Hastings, 74, Captain F. E. Loch, Portsmouth.
Hazard, 16, Com. J. Wilkinson, Medit.
Herald, 18, Capt. Jas. Nias, Portsmouth.
Hercules, 74, Capt. J. T. Nicolas, C.B., K.H., par. ser.
Hermes, st. v. Lieut. W. S. Blount, Woolwich.
Hornet, 6, Lieut. H. Baillie, West Indies.
Howe, 120, Vice-Adm. Sir R. Otway, St. K.C.B., Capt. C. H. Paget, Sheerness.
Hyacinth, 18, Com. W. Warren, East Indies.
Imogene, 28, Capt. H. W. Bruce, S. America.
Inconstant, 36, Capt. D. Piling, particular serv.
Jaseur, 16, Com. F. M. Boulton, Medit.
Lark, 4, sur. v. Lieut. T. Smith, W. Indies.
Larne, 18, Com. P. J. Blake, East Indies.
Leveret, 10, Lieut. C. J. Bouanquet, Coast of Africa.
Lightning, st. v. Lt. Jas. Shambler, partic. serv.
Lily, 16, Capt. J. Reeve, Coast of Africa.
Lynx, 3, Lieut. H. Broadhead, Coast of Africa.
Madagascar, 43, Capt. P. P. Wallis, West Indies.
Magicienne, 24, Capt. G. W. St. John Mildmay, Lisbon station.
Magnificent, 4, Commodore P. J. Douglas, r. v. ship, Jamaica.
Magpie, 4, sur. v. Lieut. T. S. Brock, Medit.
Malabar, 74, Captain Ed. Harvey, West Indies.
Medea, st. v. Com. J. N. Nott, West Indies.
Megara, st. v. Lieut. H. C. Goldsmith, Medit.
Melville, 74, Rear-Adm. Hon. G. Elliot, C.B., Capt. Hon. R. S. Dundas, Cape of Good Hope and Coast of Africa.
Meteor, st. v. Lieut. R. D. Pithard, Falmouth.
Minden, 74, Capt. A. R. Shapue, C.B., Medit.
Modeste, 18, Com. H. Eyres, West Indies.
Nautilus, 10, Lieut. G. Beaufoy, Coast of Africa.
Niagara, 20, Capt. W. Sandon, Lakes of Canada.
Ninrod, 20, Com. J. Fraser, W. Indies.
North Star, 28, Commodore Lord John Hay, C.B., particular serv.
Ocean, 80, Capt. Sir J. Hill, Kt., guardship, Sheerness.
Partridge, 10, Lieut. W. Morris, Portsmouth.
Pearl, 20, Com. Lord C. E. Paget, W. Indies.
Pelican, 16, Capt. B. Popham, Coast of Africa.
Pelorus, 16, Com. W. Harding, East Indies.
Pembroke, 74, Capt. F. Moreby, C.B., Medit.
Phoenix, st. v. Com. W. H. Henderson, particular serv.
Pickle, 5, Lieut. P. Haast, W. Indies.
Pique, 36, Capt. E. Boxer, particular serv.
Pluto, steam-ves., Lieut. W. V. Lee, partic. serv.
President, 59, Rear-Adm. C. B. Ross, C.B., Capt. Ja. Scott, South America.
Princess Charlotte, 104, Adml. Hon. Sir R. Stopford, G.C.B., Capt. A. Fanshawe, Medit.
Pylades, 18, Com. W. L. Castle, Coast of Africa.
Racehorse, Com. H. W. Crauford, West Indies.
Raleigh, 16, Capt. M. Quin, East Indies.
Rattlesnake, 28, Capt. W. Hobson, E. Ind.
Raven, 4, sur. v. Lieut. G. A. Bedford, C. of Africa.
Rhadamanthus, st. v. Com. A. Wakefield, Mediterranean.
Ringdove, 16, Com. H. S. Nixon, W. Indies.
Ridney, 92, Capt. H. de Parker, Medit.
Royal Adelaide, 104, Adm. Lord A. Beauleik, G.C.H., G.C.H.; Capt. Sir Wm. ———, C.B., K.C.H., Plymouth.
Royal George, yacht, Capt. Long A. Fitzclarence, G.C.H., Portsmouth.
Royal Sovereign, yacht, Capt. Sup. S. Jackson, C.B., Pembroke.
Royalist, 10, Lieut. Hon. E. Plunkett, particular service.
Russell, 74, Capt. Sir W. H. Dillon, K.C.H., Lisbon station.
Salamander, st. v. Com. S. C. Daeres, particular service.
Samang, 28, Capt. W. Broughton, S. America.
San Josef, 110, Capt. J. N. Taylor, C.B., guardship, Plymouth.

bapthine, 28, Capt. R. F. Rowley, Mediterranean.
 Sappho, 16, Com. T. Fraser, West Indies.
 Sarcena, 10, Lieut. H. W. IHill, Co. of Africa.
 Sazellite, 18, Com. I. Robb, West Indies.
 Savage, 10, Lieut. H. S. Lacombe, acting, par. ser.
 Scorpion, 10, Lieut. C. Gayton, Mediterranean.
 Scout, 18, Com. R. Craigie, Coast of Africa.
 Scylla, 18, Com. Hon. J. Denman, Lisbon at Sea.
 Seafower, 4, Lieut. N. Robilliard, Portsmouth.
 Serengetiam, 46, Capt. J. Leith, West Indies.
 Serpent, 16, Com. B. L. Warreu, W. Indies.
 Skinkjack, 5, Lieut. J. J. Robinson, W. Indies.
 Snake, 16, Com. A. Milne, West Indies.
 Sparrow, 10, Lieut. R. Lowery, South America.
 Sparrowhawk, 16, Com. J. Shepherd, S. America.
 Spider, 5, Lieut. J. O'Reilly (a) South America.
 Spiffire, at v. 6, Lieut. A. Kennedy, Mediter.
 Stag, 46, Commodore T. B. Sullivan, C.B., South America.

Thunder, sur. v. Com. E. Barnett, West Indies.
Tribune, 24, Capt. C. H. Williams, Chatham.
Triaculo, 16, Com. H. E. Coffin, Libourne station.
Tweed, 80, Com. Hon. F. T. Polham, par. serv.
Tyne, 28, Capt. J. Townshend, Med.
Vanguard, 80, Capt. Sir Thos. Fellowes, Kt. C.B.
Mediterranean.
Vestal, 96, Capt. T. W. Carter, West Indies.
Victor, 16, Com. R. Crozier, East Indies.
Victory, 104, Capt. T. Jearle, C.B., guard-ship,
Plymouth.
Viper, 6, Lieut. W. Winnell, Coast of Africa.
Voloze, 38, Capt. H. Smith, East Indies.
Volcano, st. v. Lieut. Jos. West, Mediterranean.
Waaderer, 16, Com. T. Bushby, West Indies.
Wasp, 18, Com. Hon. D. W. A. Pelham, Medit.
Water Witch, 10, Lieut. —, Portsmouth.
Wezzie, 10, Lieut. J. Simpson —, Mediterranean.
Wellesley, 74, Rear-Admiral Sir F. L. Maitland, K. C.B.; Capt. T. Maitland, E. Indies.
William and Mary, yacht, Capt. P. Hornby,
Woolwich.
Wizard, 10, Lieut. T. F. Birch, S. America.
Wolf, 18, Capt. E. Stanley, East Indies.
Volunteer, 16, Com. Hon. E. Howard, Medit.
Zebra, 16, Capt. R. C. M'Crea, East Indies.

SLOOP OF WAR COMMISSIONED AS PACKETS.

Alert, Lieut. C. H. Noyrington.
Brisee, Lieut. John Downey.
Delight, Lieut. J. Moore (b).
Express, Lieut. W. G. Croke.
Goldfinch, Lieut. Edw. Collier.
Hope, Lieut. W. L. Rees.
Lapwing, Lieut. F. R. Coghlau.
Linnnet, Lieut. W. Downey.
Lyra, Lieut. W. Forceter.
Magnet, Lieut. S. Griffith.
Mutino, Lieut. Richard Pawle.
Nightingale, Lieut. —

Opossum, Lieut. Robt. Peter.
Panda, Lieut. H. W. Jones.
Pigeon, Lieut. W. Luce.
Ranger, Lieut. J. H. Turner.
Reindeer, Lieut. H. P. Dicken.
Seagull, Lieut. J. Parsons.
Sheldrake, Lieut. A. R. L. Passingham.
Skylark, Lieut. C. P. Ladd.
Spey, Lieut. Rob. B. James.
Star, Lieut. C. Smith.
Swat, Lieut. D. Welch.
Tylian, Lieut. Ed. Jennings.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

NAVY.

PROMOTIONS.

ADMIRALTY, June 28.

This day, in pursuance of Her Majesty's pleasure, the following Flag Officers of Her Majesty's Fleet were promoted, viz:—

TO BE ADMIRALS OF THE BLUE:—

Vice-Admirals of the Red—
 Sir Erskine Douglas, Esq.
 Sir Ross Donnelly, K.C.B.
 Sir John P. Beresford, Bart. K.C.B., G.C.H.

TO BE VICE-ADMIRALS OF THE RED:—

• Vice-Admirals of the White—
John West, Esq.
Stephen Poyntz, Esq.
Right Hon. John Lord Colville
John Cochet, Esq.

TO BE ~~NINE~~-ADMIRALS OF THE WHITE:—

Vice-Admirals of the Blue—
 Sir Henry Heathcote, Knt.
 Sir W. C. R. Owen, K.C.B., G.C.H.
 Sir George Scott, K.C.B.
 Sir Thomas Dundas, K.C.B.
 Sir John Tremayne Rodd, K.C.B.

TO BE VICE-ADMIRALS OF THE BLUE:—

Sea-Admirals of the Red—
Sir Thomas Livingstone, Bart.
Sir Edward Bruce, K.C.B.
Sir Francis William Austen, K.C.B.
Sir Patrick Campbell, K.C.B.

TO BE REAR-ADMIRALS² OF THE REY:—

Rear Admirals of the White—
Sir Thomas Briggs, G.C. St. M. and G.
Right Hon. Thomas Earl of Dundonald
Sir William Parker, K.C.B.
Sir Robert Tristram Ricketts, Bart.
George M'Kinley, Esq.
Sir Charles Dashwood, Knt.

TO BE REAR-ADMIRALS OF THE WHITE:—

Rear-Admirals of the Blue—
Samuel Campbell Rowley, Esq.
Thomas Browne, Esq.
Samuel Pym, Esq. C.B.
Robert Jackson, Esq.
Sir Robert Barrie, Knt. C.B., K.C.H.
Charles Bayne Hodgson Ross, Esq. C.B.
Sir Charles Malcolm, Knt.
Francis William Fane, Esq.
Hon. George Elliot, C.B.
James Milnar, Esq. C.B., K.C.H.

The under-mentioned Captains² were also appointed Flag-Officers of Her Majesty's Fleet:—

TO BE REAR-ADMIRALS OF THE BLUE:-

James Richard Daeges, Esq.
John Sykes, Esq.
John Hancock, Esq. C.B.
Hon. Donald Hugh Mackay
Francis Mason, Esq. C.B.
Thomas Brown, Esq.
Alexander Shippard, Esq.

Robert Henderson, Esq
Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart. C B
Sir John Louis, Bart. C B.
Brian Hodgson, Esq
Hood Hanway Christian, Esq

The under mentioned Captains were also appointed Rear Admirals on the retired List —

John Surman Garden, Esq
John Wentworth Hollan, Esq
John Impey, Esq
Henry Maudsloni Ommanney, Esq
Archibald Duff, Esq
Hon. Major Jabol Henniker Esq

COMMANDERS TO BE CAPTAINS —

W H Henderson
G A Elliott
Richard Dvenshurn
Richard Copeland
Charles Rich
John Robertson
Robert Deane
William Richardson
George Charles Blake
Mark Halpen Swaney
William Fessee Stanley
William Holt
William Henry Pierson
John Jervis Tucker
John Kingcome
Brunswick Popham
William Aldrey
Thomas Ogle
George Evans
William John Cole, K H
Richard Keane
John Hackett
William Picking
Julius James Farmer Newell
John Forster
John Parker
George Danell
Frederick Bullock
Russell Lhott
Alfred Luckraft
John Elphinstone Erskine
James Hope
George Augustus Sunthill
Francis Price Blackwood
Horatio Thomas Austin
William Ramsay
Edward Stanley

LIEUTENANTS TO BE COMMANDERS —

A B Hammond
Frederick Warden
Hon J R Drummond
Josiah Thompson
George Gover Mull
Joseph Roche
Edmund Norcott
Henry Church
William Hubbard (a)
Henry Stroud
Henry Duncan Twiss
Henry Vere Huntley
Henry Frederick Poake
Charles James Franklin Newton
Frederick Wood
Francis Grove
James Hamilton Ward
Lewis Tobias Jones
Edward St Leger Cannon
John McDonnell
Charles Wilson Riley
Francis Lardet
John Hathorn
William M Ilaine
Ralph Berton
Richard Burridge
William Griffin
Frederick Hutton

Bird Allen
Frederick Henry Hastings Glasser
Edward Barnett
John Bolton Woodthorpe
Charles Gepp Robinson
William Chaites Phillott
Sackett Hope
Richard Robinson
John Venou Fletcher
James Anslaby Legard
Thomas Leake Masse
Woodford John Williams
Robert Kerr
Alexander Leslie Montgomery
Samuel Mercer
William Louis
Richard Inman
Robert Spencer Robinson
Hastings Reginald Henry
Robert Tunghaw Stupford
Hon Henry Anthony Murray
John Henry Windham
Henry Bayot
Hon Swinfen Thomas Carnegie
Charles George Liers Napier
Hon George Fowler Hastings
Tulivera Vernon Auson

TO BE LIEUTENANTS —

James Alexander Jordan (b)
George G Randolph
Sir William Hoate, Bart.
George H Symon
Edward N Troubridge
H U C G J B Likot
Thomas C Coppinger
James I Wood
J C Robinson
J E J Starke
Charles G Phillips
Robert O'Brien
N S Knott
William Coles
James S A Dennis
John F Guyon
N Norway
Samuel Lowell
R W Suckling
J B Massie
William Morris (b)
George W Winlo
Henry G Shutz
John Compton
Augustus C May
Michael De Conity
Arthur M Noel
William Frederick Lead
Richard M Robertson
John Alfred Paul
Edward James Bedford
Cesar Cottrell Powell
Charles F Wade
Matthew Nolloth
Walter Need
John Clavell
Benjamin H. Runce
Richard A Oliver
J C Caffin
Griffith G Phillips
J Osmond Fiseland
Roger Curtis
Charles Grey Rigge
Charles G Crayley
William Cottrell Woon
H L B Bennett
James Kelhows
William Thorp
Zacchettus Andrew
James Henry Bridges
John Robert Crinion Helpman
George Blane
E P B Von Donop
William Clayton

Charles F. Schomberg
 Henry A. Story
 Peter Fisher
 Charles Barker
 William S. Wiseman
 William H. Church
 Charles F. A. Shadwell
 Charles James Balfour
 Stephen Brady
 Frank Denison
 William F. Burnett
 Frederick E. Johnston
 William Henry Ainslie
 Augustus Algernon Villiers
ASSISTANT SURGEONS TO BE SURGEONS.
 John Rodgers
 John Park
 William Roy
 John Macdonchy
 John Stiven
 Alexander Lyon
 Robert Farnservis
 John Naulty
 John Mann Brown
 Alexander Munthead, M.D.
 Alexander Crawford Macleeroy
 Abraham Rose Bradford
 J. Arnold Mould
 John Griffith Williams
 Thomas William Jewel
 Thomas Frazer
 Thomas Kidd (b)
 George Alexander Munro
 William Kent
 Thomas Brienan
 John Sloan
 James Stiell
 Harvey Morris
 John Moody

APPOINTMENTS.

CAPTAIN
 J. Newdham Taylor, C.B. San Josef

COMMANDER.
 Granville Gower Loch .. Fly
 E. W. Pilkington.... Const Guard
 J. King Do
 C. C. Dent Do
 G. Bissett Do
 T. Ross Do
 J. Hudson (b) Do
 F. Patten Do
 G. Dobson Do
 T. P. Le Hardy, Do
 W. Mackinn Bellerophon

LIEUTENANTS
 Hon. L. Plunkett to com. Savage
 J. R. Ingledeu, ... Cornwallis
 J. Slaughter, ... to com. Lion, R.V.
 M. B. Jones .. to com. Victoria, R.V.
 J. Simpson .. to com. Weasie
 L. Bavin .. P. Malakoon
 R. A. Bradshaw .. Asia
 W. G. B. Estcourt .. Excellent
 J. H. Bridges .. Do
 C. F. Schomberg .. Hastings
 N. Robilliar .. to com. Snafflower
 W. S. Wiseman .. Wellesley
 P. Fisher .. Cornwallis
 M. J. Iddon .. to com. C. just Guard
 L. Hill Do
 J. S. Dilyell Do
 W. Market Do

ASSISTANT SURGEONS
 W. Crofton Termagant
 L. Johnson, M.D. Britannia
 J. Read .. Sea Flower
 R. W. Dalton .. Royal Adelaide
 R. Anderson .. Do
 — Johnstone H. Israel Hoop
 T. G. Martin Hastings

PURSER
 W. B. Baden Ocean

CHAPLAIN.
 Rev. J. N. Campbell. .. Hastings.

ARMY

WAR OFFICE, June 19.

Commissionariat—To be Deputy Commissary-General—Assistant Com General V. B. Price
 To be Assistant Commissaries General—Asst Com General Thos. Scobell, Deputy Assist Com General Thos. Rae, Deputy Assist Com General John Lewis, Deputy Assist Com General George G. Sandford, Deputy Assist Com General Thos. Stuckney

WAR OFFICE, June 22

2nd Dragoon Guards—Lieut. Gen. Henry Elliott to be Capt. by purch. vice Skipwith, who retires, Cornet Francis Garden Campbell to be Capt. by purch. vice Elliott, Robert Dudley Rickland, Gent. to be Cornet by purch. vice Campbell

5th Foot—Captain James Oliphant Clunie, com. 17th Foot, to be Major by purch. vice Hall, prom. to 17th Foot

17th—Colonel David Williams, Inspect. Field Officer, Recruit Dist. to be Lieut. Colonel, vice Despard, app. Insp. Field Officer, Major Th. Hall, from 3rd Foot, to be Lieut. Col. by purch. vice Williams, who retires

28th—Lieut. Maurice Chas. O'Connell, from 51st Foot, to be Capt. by purch. vice Potter, who retires.

33rd—Major Sir E. Brackenbury, from h.p. Unatt., to be Major vice William Henry Grote, who exch. receiving the difference

51st—Ensign Mark Francis Alexander C. Ker

to be Lieut. by purch. vice O'Connell prom. in 28th Foot, W. H. Kibb, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Kei

68th—Gent. Cadet Alfred Tipping, from Royal Mil. Col., to be Ensign by purch. vice Madocks, who retires

74th—John, Annah Ambrose, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Thulow, prom. in 7th Foot

80th—To be Captains by purch. Lieut. Chas. Robert Rant vice West, who retires, Lieut. Hon. R. Robert Maydwell Gulston vice Plunkett, who retires. To be Lieutenants by purch.

Ensign Mon. W. Anthony Skeffington Foster vice Rant, Ensign W. Houghton Tyssen vice Gulston. To be Lieutenants by purch. Lieut. J. J. Montgomery Gent. vice Foster, William Cookson, Gent. vice Tyssen

81st—Edward William Gray, Gent. to be Asst. Surg. vice Dyce, app. on the Staff

84th—Captain Charles James, from 89th Foot, to be Captain vice Gray who exchanges

89th—Captain John Gray, from 84th Foot, to be Captain vice James, who exch.

90th—Lieut. Wm. Henry Rogers to be Capt. by purch. vice James who retires, Ensign Lord Stephen Algernon Chichester to be Lieut. by purch. vice Rogers, Henry Ashmore Leatt, Gt.

to be Ensign by purch. vice Lord S. A. Chichester, Asst. Surg. John Kinnis, M.D. to be Surgeon vice Robertson, app. on the Staff

98th—Ensign John Morton Jeffery to be Lieut. by purch. vice Savage, who retires, Sir Edward Colby, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Jeffery.

Brevet—Major Sir Edw. Brackenbury, 33d Foot, to be Lieut.-Col. in the Army; Captain Ralph Carr Alderson, Royal Eng. to have the local rank of Lieut.-Colonel while employed on a special service with Colonel Lacy in Spain.

Hospital Staff—Surg. Robertson, M.D. from 90th Foot, to be Surgeon to the Forces vice Nicholson, prom.; Assist. Surg. David Dyce, from 81st Foot, to be Assist. Surgeon to the Forces vice Topham, whose app. has been cancelled; Assist. Surg. Peter Robertson, from 90th Foot, to be Assist. Surgeon to the Forces vice Kinnis, prom. in 90th Foot.

WAR OFFICE, June 25.

2nd Foot—Ensign William Robert Lewis, from 45th Foot, to be Lieut. without purch. vice Cuyler, cash. by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

6th—Lieut. George Hughes Messiter, from 89th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Macdonald, who ex.

12th—Ensign Robert George Duff to be Lieut. by purch. vice Hutchinson, prom.; Augustus Frederick Braham, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Duff.

13th—Ensign Hon. Emilius J. W. Forester to be Lieut. without purch. vice Wade, app. Adjutant; Ensign James Colborne, from 24th Foot, to be Lieut. without purch. vice Keating, dismissed by the sentence of a Gen. Court-Martial; John William Cox, Gent. to be Ensign vice Forester; Lieut. Hamlet Wade to be Adjutant vice Havelock, prom.

21st—Captain John Pieton Beete to be Major by purch. vice Fairweather, who retires; Lieut. George Frederick Ainslie to be Captain by purch. vice Beete; Second Lieut. William Macknight to be First Lieut. by purch. vice Ainslie; Fied. Holland, Gent. to be Second Lieut. by purch. vice Macknight.

24th—Louis Bazalgette, Gent. to be Ensign without purch. vice Colborne, prom. in 13th Ft.

26th—Ensign George Sweeney to be Lieut. by purch. vice Maule, who retires; Alfred Rob. Margary, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Sweeney.

44th—Livingston Mitchell, Gent. to be Ensign without purch. vice Kipling, app. Adjutant; Ensign Robert Kipling to be Adjutant vice Cold, app. to 3d Light Dragoons.

45th—Serg. Major William Smith to be Ensign without purch. vice Lewis, prom. in 2nd Foot.

51st—Colonel Henry Freke from h.p. Unatt. to be Lieut. Colonel vice James Campbell, who exch.; Major William Henry Elliott to be Lieut. Colonel by purch. vice Freke, who retires; Capt. Frederick Mainwaring to be Major by purch. vice Elliott; Lieut. William Henry Hare to be Capt. by purch. vice Mainwaring; Ensign Hon. David Erskine to be Lieut. by purch. vice Hare; Wm. Douglas Scott, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Erskine.

63rd—Captain Alexander Edgar, from 2nd West India Regt. to be Captain vice William son, app. to 93rd Foot.

80th—Lieut. George Brunswick Smyth to be Captain by purch. vice Scully, who retires; Ensign Henry Theodore Torkington to be Lieut. by purch. vice Smyth; Alexander Wm. Riley, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Torkington.

89th—Lieut. John Duntze Macdonald, from 6th Foot, to be Lieut. vice Messiter, who exch.

93rd—Capt. Thomas Paul Williamson, from 63rd Foot, to be Captain vice George Balck, who retires upon h.p. Unatt.

1st West India Regt.—Ensign Adam Campbell to be Lieut. without purch. vice Winn, dec.; Ensign William Charles Read to be Lieut. without purch. vice Carew, dec.; — Moffatt, Gent. to be Ensign vice Campbell; Serj. Major Henry

Williams Wily, from 96th Foot, to be Ensign vice Read.

2nd West India Regt.—Captain Jos. McLeod Few, from h.p. Unatt. to be Captain vice Edgar, app. to 63rd Foot.

Ceylon Rifle Regt.—Theodore Mylius to be Captain without purch. vice Bagenall, dec.; Second Lieut. William Price to be First Lieut. vice Mylius; John Stuart Flack, Gent. to be Second Lieut. vice Price.

Unattached—Lieut. John Spalding, from 25th Foot, to be Captain without purch.

Memorandum—Captain Ambrose Congreve, who was restored to f.p. in the 7th Regt. on 8th June, 1831, has repaid the difference which he received on exch. to h.p. in December, 1833.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, June 23.

Royal Engineers—Second Capt. George Tait to be Capt. vice Wilson, dec.; First Lieut. Chas. Oldershaw to be Second Capt. vice Tait; Second Lieut. Chas. Acton Broke to be First Lieut. vice Oldershaw.

DOWNING STREET, June 29.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Colonel the Hon. John Maitland, and Lieut.-Colonel George Augustus Wetherall, to be Companions of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath.

WAR OFFICE, July 3.

Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint the following Officers to take rank, by Brevet, as under-mentioned. The commissions to be dated 28th June, 1838:—

TO BE GENERALS IN THE ARMY:—

Lieutenant Generals—

Sir T. Saumarez
Campbell Crancher
J. N. Salfinders
Sir W. M. Peacocke, K.C.H.
John Pore
Sir C. Wale, K.C.B.
Sir F. O. Vandeleur, G.C.B.
Charles P. Douglas
Robert R. Clayton
A. J. Goldie
Sir R. H. Sheaffe, Bart.
Hon. Sir A. Duff, K.C.H.
Sir R. S. Donkin, K.C.B., G.C.H.
W. Eden
Sir G. T. Walker, Bart. G.C.B.
Sir J. H. Dalrymple, Bart.
S. Hawker, K.C.H.

TO BE LIEUTENANT-GENERALS IN THE ARMY:—

Major-Generals—

S. Brown
O. Herbert
J. Ross, C.H.
Hon. Sir H. King, K.C.B.
Sir W. Thornton, K.C.B.
Sir J. Macdonald, K.C.B.
Sir C. Pratt, K.C.B.
Hon. J. B. O'Neill
A. Salvin
A. Walsh
Sir W. Johnston, K.C.B.
F. Newbery
D. P. Blommart
Sir J. Stratton, K.C.H.
Lieut. Hon. Sir Edward Blakeney, K.C.B., G.C.H.
Sir James Charles Dalblac, K.C.H.
Sir J. Maclean, K.C.B.
Sir R. D. Jackson, K.C.B.
Sir T. Hawker, K.C.H.
Sir G. A. Quentin, K.C.H.
Sir C. Campbell, K.C.B.
Sir J. Wilson, K.C.B.

Sir S. F. Whittingham, K.C.B., K.C.H.
 Sir J. Colborne, G.C.B., G.C.H.
 Sir A. Campbell, Bart. G.C.B.
 Sir T. M'Mahon, Bart. G.C.B.
 Sir A. Woodford, K.C.B.
 Sir T. Arbuthnot, K.C.B.
 Sir H. F. Bouverie, K.C.B.
 John Lord Burgherle, K.C.B., G.C.H.
 Lord Fitzroy J. H. Somerset, K.C.B.
 Lord C. S. Mansers, K.C.B.

TO BE MAJOR-GENERALS IN THE ARMY:—

Colonels—
 H. D'Oyley, Grenadier Foot Guards
 Sir F. J. Doyle, Bart. h.p. 54th Foot
 W. Gray, h.p. 1st Foot
 E. Darley, 6th Foot
 W. V. Hompesch, h.p. Unattached
 C. Hamilton, 9th Foot
 Sir G. Teesdale, h.p. Unattached
 George J. Reeves, h.p. 97th Foot
 Hon. H. Murray, h.p. 18th Light Dragoons
 Hon. L. Stanhope, h.p. Unattached
 John Grey, h.p. 5th Foot
 A. Cameron, h.p. Greek Light Infantry
 Sir J. Wilson, M.C.B., h.p. 48th Foot
 Sir Henry Watson, h.p. Portuguese service
 E. Walker, h.p. 60th Foot
 Thomas Evans, 70th Foot

TO BE COLONELS IN THE ARMY:—

Lieutenant-Colonels—
 J. A. Meln, 74th Foot
 Alexander Wedderburn, Coldstream Guards
 P. Dumas, h.p. 4th West India Regiment
 John Martin, h.p. Unattached
 G. H. Hewett, h.p. Unattached
 C. Wyndham, h.p. Unattached
 Henry Earl of Uxbridge, h.p. Unattached
 Hon. H. H. Hutchinson, h.p. Unattached
 Sir J. M. Wallace, 5th Dragoon Guards
 Hon. J. Pluch, h.p. Unattached
 James Lindsay, h.p. Unattached
 W. G. Moore, h.p. Unattached
 Sir A. F. D'Este, K.C.H., h.p. Unattached
 James Campbell, 95th Foot
 W. Cochrane, h.p. Unattached
 H. Somerset, h.p. Cape Corps
 N. Wodehouse, 50th Foot
 H. M. Laine, h.p. Unattached
 Henry Earl of Darlington, h.p. Unattached
 G. A. Wetherill, 1st Foot
 J. M'Caskey, 9th Foot
 J. Carter, 1st Foot
 J. Simpson, 39th Foot
 J. P. Love, 73rd Foot
 Hon. G. Anson, h.p. Unattached
 D. M'Gregor, 93rd Foot
 E. Warner, h.p. 26th Foot
 N. Hamilton, Inspecting Field Officer
 J. Dennis, 8d Foot
 M. C. Blake, h.p. Cape Corps
 C. A. F. Pontine, Coldstream Foot Guards
 H. H. Sale, 13th Foot
 Henry Lane, h.p. Unattached
 J. G. Baumgardt, 2nd Foot
 R. Nickle, on a particular service
 D. Falla, h.p. Unattached
 Sir J. M. Meleod, h.p. Unattached
 S. Stawell, 18th Light Dragoons
 Charles G. Arbuthnot, 72nd Foot
 Thomas Bryant, 40th Foot
 G. G. Falconer, 22nd Foot
 R. England, 41st Foot
 C. Middleton, h.p. Unattached
 B. Lord Holman, h.p. Unattached
 Joseph Paterson, on a particular service

TO BE LIEUTENANT-COLONELS IN THE ARMY:—

Majors—
 D. Graham, h.p. 56th Foot
 John Algeo, 6th Foot

Peter Edwards, h.p. Unattached
 William Breke Williams, on a particular service
 William Cartwright, h.p. Unattached
 John Garland, h.p. Unattached
 Robert Fraser, h.p. 93rd Foot
 Richard W. Hartstonge, h.p. Unattached
 Hardross Rob. Sanderson, h.p. Unattached
 William Parry Yale, h.p. Unattached
 Donald Urquhart, 39th Foot
 Charles Hervy Smith, h.p. 40th Foot
 Wm. Henry Newton, h.p. Unattached
 Nicholas Lawson Darrah, 97th Foot
 Melville Glenie, 60th Foot
 Arthur Gore, h.p. Unattached
 William Wilkinson, 49th Foot
 George Marshall, 32nd Foot
 David Goodson, h.p. Unattached
 Loftus Owen, h.p. Unattached
 Pringle Taylor, h.p. Unattached
 James Alfred Schreiber, h.p. Unattached
 Charles Levinge, 71st Foot
 Robert Winchester, 92nd Foot
 Henry D. Campbell, h.p. Unattached
 James Wood, h.p. Unattached
 Wm. Frederick Tindling, h.p. Unattached
 Andrew Clarke, 46th Foot
 Stephen Holmes, h.p. Unattached
 Henry Herbert Manners, 9th Foot

BE MAJORS IN THE ARMY:—

Captains—

John Bouamy, 6th Foot
 Thomas James Adair, 67th Foot
 Samuel R. Warren, 65th Foot
 Richard Manners, 59th Foot
 James Tomlinson, 11th Light Dragoons
 Jeremiah Cowper, 18th Foot
 Henry K. Bloomfield, 11th Foot
 Barton Parker Browne, 11th Light Dragoons
 Henry Bond, 3rd Light Dragoons
 John Birtwhistle, 32nd Foot
 Arthur Myers, 23rd Foot
 James T. Moore, 87th Foot
 James H. Sergeantson, 50th Foot
 Walter Harris, 5th Foot
 Horace Suckling, 90th Foot
 Ambrose Spang, 60th Foot
 William Fraser, 43rd Foot
 John Clarke, 66th Foot
 John Stoyte, 24th Foot
 James Spence, 31st Foot
 James Algeo, 77th Foot
 Andrew Snape Hamond Alpin, 89th Foot
 James Hutchinson, 31st Foot
 Francis William Dillon, 18th Foot
 Isaac Richardson, 11th Foot
 Robert Browne, 16th Foot
 William Calver, 97th Foot
 Richard Tatton, 77th Foot
 James Jackson, 57th Foot
 G. F. G. O'Connor, 85th Foot
 James Creagh, 86th Foot
 Edward Johnstone, 50th Foot
 William A. Riach, 79th Foot
 Thomas Nickoll, 1st Foot
 William Henry Arthure, 56th Foot
 Thomas L'Estrange, 36th Foot
 William Bindon, Newfoundland Veteran Comp.
 Frederick C. Montgomery, 50th Foot
 William Thomas Hunt, 85th Foot
 Nicholas Palmer, 56th Foot
 Thomas James Galloway, 33rd Foot
 Joseph Robert Reines, 95th Foot
 Charles B. Brisbane, 34th Foot
 John L. Black, 53rd Foot
 Charles Douglas, 9th Foot
 Charles H. Doyle, 24th Foot
 W. White, Town Major of Dublin
 Richard Westmore, 33rd Foot
 Thomas Wood, Grenadier Foot Guards
 Manley Power, 85th Foot

* The date of this Officer's Commission, according to the annual and monthly Army Lists, is the 27th December, 1837; not 1835, the year to which the Brevet extends.

William H. Law, 83rd Foot
 James M'Queen, 15th Light Dragoons
 Charles Hall, 1st Life Guards
 Harman Jeffares, Newfoundland Veteran Comp.
 Edward Thorp, 89th Foot
 William Sadleir, 58th Foot
 John Lawrenson, 17th Light Dragoons
 Richard Hort, 18th Foot
 John Dalzell, 16th Foot
 Hunter Waid, 48th Foot
 A. B. Armstrong, Cape Mounted Riflemen
 Harcourt Master, 4th Light Dragoons
 Henry W. Hantley, 9th Foot
 Joseph Swinburne, 8th Foot
 James M'Donnell, 2nd Life Guards
 Edward Twopenny, 78th Foot
 George Carpenter, 4th Foot
 George Whannel, 3rd Foot
 Daniel Fraser, 42nd Foot
 Alexander Buchan, 77th Foot
 George Hogarth, 20th Foot
 William Thain, 3rd Foot
 Dugald M'Neil, 1st Foot
 John Crofton Peddie, 31st Foot
 Richard Willington, 81th Foot
 Peter Cheape, 96th Foot
 John A. Forbes, 92nd Foot
 Alexander M'Leod, 31st Foot
 Charles Smith, 30th Foot
 Charles Highmore Potts, 19th Foot
 Francis Westcott, 5th Dragoon Guards

WAR OFFICE, July 3

Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint the following Officers of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers to take rank, by Brevet, as under-mentioned. Commissions to bear date 28th June, 1938

TO BE GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—

Lieutenant Generals—
 John Mackelcan
 George Wilson

TO BE LIEUTENANT-GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—

Major Generals—
 Sir Joseph Maclellan, K.C.B.
 Richard Dickinson
 Alexander Armstrong
 Henry Evans
 Sir F. William Mulsant, K.C.B.

TO BE MAJOR GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—

Colonels—
 Foster Coulson, late Royal Irish Artillery
 Richard Unwinke, 1st Royal Irish Artillery
 George Irving, late Royal Irish Artillery
 Sir John May, K.C.B. Royal Artillery
 John Fox Burgoine, Royal Engineers

TO BE COLONELS IN THE ARMY.—

Lieutenant Colonels—
 Griffith George Lewis, Royal Engineers
 Sir George Charles Hoate, Royal Engineers
 George Iudd Harding, Royal Engineers
 John Ross Wright, Royal Engineers

TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL IN THE ARMY.—

Major—
 William Millar, Royal Artillery

TO BE MAJORS IN THE ARMY.—

Captains—
 Richard Burre Rawnsley, Royal Artillery
 William Augustus Raynes, Royal Artillery
 Richard Harding, Royal Artillery
 Joseph H. Howell, Royal Artillery
 Robert Andrews, Royal Artillery
 Thomas Howard Fenwick, Royal Engineers
 Lewis Alexander Hall, Royal Engineers
 Patrick Yule, Royal Engineers
 George Philipps, Royal Engineers
 Charles Jasper Selwyn, Royal Engineers
 Edmund Sheppard, Royal Artillery

William Mathew Gosset, Royal Engineers
 Daniel Bolton, Royal Engineers
 Lewis S. B. Robertson, Royal Artillery
 Walter Diphising Lock, Royal Artillery
 Philip Sandilands, Royal Artillery
 Browne Willis, Royal Artillery
 Benjamin Hutchison Vanghan, Royal Artillery
 Thomas Gordon Higgins, Royal Artillery
 Frederick William Whynates, Royal Engineers
 Alexander Watt Robe, Royal Engineers
 Ralph Cair Alderson, Royal Engineers
 Charles Wright, Royal Engineers
 Charles Rivers, Royal Engineers
 Francis R. Thomson, Royal Engineers
 Amherst Wright, Royal Artillery
 Hale Young Wortham, Royal Engineers

WAR OFFICE, July 2

Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint the following Officers of the Royal Marines to take rank, by Brevet, as under-mentioned. Commissions to bear date 28th June, 1888:—

TO BE OFFICERS IN THE ARMY.—

Lieutenant Generals—
 James Meredith
 Robert Hill Faimair

TO BE MAJORS IN THE ARMY.—

Captains—
 William Mouldin Burto
 Abraham H. Gordon

WAR OFFICE, July 3.

1st or Grenadier Guards—Col Samuel Lambert to be Lieutenant-Col without purch., Col Alexander Higginson to be Major vice Lambert.

61st Foot—Major (Miss) Forbes to be Lieutenant without purch., Brevet Major Henry Burnside to be Major vice Forbes, Lieutenant Francis John Swaine Highburne to be Captain vice Burnside, Ensign John Benney Gibb to be Lieutenant vice Highburne, Ensign J. Howell, from 2nd West India Regt to be Ensign vice Gibb.

70th—Major Joseph Kelall to be Lieutenant-Col without purch., Brevet Major Thomas Reed to be Major vice Kelall, Lieutenant John Brown Jameson to be Captain vice Reed, Ensign James Palliser Costabule to be Lieutenant vice Jameson.

97th—Major John Campbell to be Lieutenant-Col without purch., Brevet Major Nicholas L. van Duijn to be Major vice Campbell, Lieutenant Hector Harveit to be Captain vice Darragh, Ensign David Craigie to be Lieutenant vice Harveit, Ensign and Adjut Isaac Moore to have the rank of Lieutenant, John Robert Graham Pattison, Gent to be Ensign vice Craigie.

2nd West India Regt—Ensign John Warren Glubb, from Royal African Colonial Corps, to be Ensign vice Howell, app to 61st Regt.

Royal African Corps—Clayton Samuel Heat Huxington, Gent to be Ensign without purch vice Glubb, app to 2nd West India Regt.

WAR OFFICE, July 4.

3rd Light Dragoons—Lieut James Cowell, from 11th Light Dragoons, to be Lieutenant vice Fox whose app has not been placed.

4th—Lieut Edward Inge, from 13th Foot, to be Lieutenant vice Cowell, whose app. has not taken place, Col Alexander Low to be Lieutenant, by purch. vice Paxton, prom. W. Augustus Hyder, Gent to be Cornet by purch vice Low.

1st or Grenadier Guards—Lieut Col Henry Buxington, from 1st Buffs, to be Captain and Lieutenant Colonel vice Higginson, prom. Captain Richard Wm. Astell to be Captain and Lieutenant.

Colonel by purch. vice Barrington, who retires; Lieut. Hugh Andrew R. Mitchell to be Captain by purch. vice Astell.

55th Foot—Second Lieut. Charles Durie to be First Lieut. by purch. vice Macdonough, who retires; William Woodgate, Gent. to be Second Lieut. by purch. vice Durie.

46th—Henry Frederick Sullivan, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Dickens, who retires.

56th—Ensign James Waddell to be Lieut. without purch. vice Fraser, dec.; Robert Harness Macdennell, Gent. to be Ensign vice Waddell.

57th—Ensign Edw. Alexander Thos. Lynch to be Lieut. by purch. vice Sullivan, who retires; Henry Wilkes Mastersen, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Lynch.

58th—Captain William Saddleir to be Major without purch. vice Ricketts, dec.; Lieut. Wm. Fleming Bell to be Capt. vice Saddleir; Ensign Charles Lavallin Nugent to be Lieut. vice Bell; Charles Chester Master, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Robson, who retires; Henry Colin Haineavis, Gent. to be Ensign vice Nugent.

60th—Major Wemyss Thos. Cochrane, from h.p. Unatt. to be Major vice Thomas Richard Plumbé Tempest, who exch. receiving the diff.

63rd—Ensign James Richard Lysaght to be Lieut. by purch. vice Jones, who retires; Stephen Francis Charles Annesley, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Lysaght.

65th—Charles Wm. Stinton, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. v. Butler, who retires.

64th—Ensign Ramsay Hankey Smith to be Lieut. by purch. vice Kirwan, who retires; Wm. Bailie Jepp, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Smith.

89th—Lieut. Col. James Lewis Basden, from h.p. to be Lieut. Col. vice Richard Doherty, who exch.; Brevet Colonel John Shedden, from h.p. 104th Foot, to be Major vice Basden, prom.; Capt. Andrew Snape Hamond Aplin to be Maj. by purch. vice Shedden, who retires; Lieut. Wm. Alexander Poppleton to be Capt. by purch. vice Aplin; Ensign Arthur Pigott to be Lieut. by purch. vice Poppleton; W. J. D. C. Aplin, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Pigott.

93rd—Lieut. Lord Cosmo Geo. Russell, from h.p. Unatt. to be Lieut. vice John Rollo Johnston, who exch. receiving the diff.

71st—Capt. Lord Arthur Lennox to be Major vice Levinge, who retires; Lieut. Nathaniel Massey Stack to be Capt. by purch. vice Lord Arthur Lennox; Ensign Barry Barry Blennerhassett to be Lieut. by purch. vice Stack; Hon. Hew Hamilton Haldane Duncan to be Ensign by purch. vice Blennerhassett.

87th—Second Lieut. Henry P. Faunt to be First Lieut. by purch. vice Doynne, who retires; Samuel Percy Lea, Gent. to be Second Lieut. by purch. vice Faunt.

Rifle Brigade—St. Thomas Munro Bart. to be Second Lieut. by purch. vice Lord Cosmo Geo. Russell, prom.

Brevet—The following officer was omitted by mistake in the Gazette of July 3:—Lieut. Col. Edward Wildman, 6th Dragoon Guards, to be Colonel in the Army.

Major John Luard, from h.p. Unatt. (Aide-de-Camp to Major Gen. Sir Jas. Charles Dalbiac), to be Lieut. Colonel in the Army. Brevet Maj. George Smith, Royal Regt. of Horse Guards, to be Lieut. Colonel in the Army. Captain Edw. Sage, Scots Fusilier Guards, to be Major in the Army.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, July 10.

Royal Regt. of Artillery—Lieut. Colonel Frederick Campbell to be Colonel vice Sir John May, removed as a General Officer; Capt. and Brevet Lieut. Col. Edward Thomas Mitchell to

be Lieut. Col. vice Campbell; Second Capt. Mark Evans to be Capt. vice Mitchell; First Lieut. John Sidney Farrell to be Second Capt. vice Evans; Second Lieut. Henry Paget Christie to be First Lieut. vice Farrell.

To be Second Lieutenants—Gent. Cadet Rob. Coreya Romef vice W. T. Crawford, prom.; Gent. Cadet George Wilder vice P. H. Mundy, prom.; Gent. Cadet Chas. Lawrence d'Aguilar vice G. E. Turner, prom.; Gent. Cadet Hugh Archibald Beauchamp Campbell vice W. Henderson, prom.; Gent. Cadet Richard Brafton Adair vice A. S. Dickson, prom.; Gent. Cadet Robert Talbot vice Kettlewell, prom.; Gent. Cadet Henry Lempriere vice Torrens, prom.

Corps of Royal Engineers—To be Second Lieutenants—Gent. Cad. Geo. Clement Bailie vice Burnbridge, prom.; Gent. Cadet Thomas Bernard Collinson vice Ross, prom.; Gent. Cadet Edmund Yeamans Walcott Henderson vice Ogile, prom.; Gent. Cadet Archibald Randolph vice McCausland, prom.; Gent. Cadet George Gorell vice Cameron, prom.; Gent. Cadet Geo. Bent vice Burnester, prom.

WAR OFFICE, July 13.

4th Dragoon Guards—Assist.-Surg. Alexander M. M.D., from 71st Foot, to be Assist.-Surg. vice Lawrence Alfred Joseph, who retires upon h.p.

8th Light Dragoons—Lieut. Rodolph De Salis to be Capt. by purch. vice Shadden, who retires; Cornet Carrington Smythe to be Lieut. by purch. vice De Salis; John Craven Carlsen, Gent. to be Cornet by purch. vice Smythe.

1st or Grenadier Guards—To be Lieutenants or Captains by purch.—Ensign and Lieut. John Homo Purvis vice Balfour, who retires; Ensign and Lieut. Edward Goulburn vice Brook, who retires. To be Ensigns and Lieutenants by purch.—Thomas Lloyd Fitzhugh, Gent. vice Mitchell, prom.; Hon. Brereton Trelawney, Gent. vice Purves, prom.; Hon. Richard W. Penn Carzon vice Goulburn, prom.

1st Foot—Capt. Dugald M'Nicol to be Major without purch. vice Warde, dec.; Lieut. John Sampson to be Capt. vice M'Nicol; Ensign John Jardine to be Lieut. vice Sampson; Serj.-Major John M'Court to be Ensign vice Jardine.

2nd—Surg. William Henry Young, from 44th Foot, to be Surg. vice Harcourt, who exch.

13th—Lieut. Charles Montagu Pocock, from h.p. 2nd Light Dragoons of the King's German Legion, to be Lieut. vice Colborne, app. to 25th Foot.

15th—Lieut. Colonel Lord Charles Wellesley, from h.p. Unatt., to be Lieut. Col. vice George William Horton, who exch. receiving the diff.

25th—Lieut. James Colborne, from 13th Foot, to be Lieut. without purch. vice Spalding, prom.

44th—Surg. John Harcourt, from 2nd Foot, to be Surg. vice Young, who exch.

70th—Serg.-Major George Gent to be Ensign without purch. vice Costabue, prom.

71st—George Stewart Beaton, M.D., to be Assist.-Surg. vice McGregor, app. to 4th Dragoon Guards.

80th—Lieut. Robert Alexander Lockhart to be Capt. by purch. vice Kane, who retires; Ensign Samuel Tolfrey Christie to be Lieut. by purch. vice Lockhart; Anthony Omsby, Gent. to be Ensign by purch. vice Christie.

86th—Capt. James Esten Dickenson, from 2nd West India Regiment, to be Capt. vice Cobbe, who exch.

94th—Staff Assist.-Surg. James Guy Pless Moore to be Assist.-Surg. vice Still, who exch.

95th—Lieut. John Wood, from 2nd West India Regiment, to be Lieut. vice Graham, who retires; 2nd West India Regt.—Capt. Henry C. Cobbe from 86th Foot, to be Capt. vice Dickenson

Biddle, William Macler, Hugh Macfarquhar, John Howison, Henry John Wood, Geo. Dods, John Morgan Ley, Richard Graves Polshelm, John Chesholm William Foquet, Edward Parry Gosan, James Allen, John Henry Irwin, John Cartwright, Francis Frankland Whyndates, Wm. Hill Waterfield, George Fryer, Richard Budd, Patrick Thomson, Geo Barker, Finney Plowden, John Fitzgerald, James Oliphant, Francis Stratton, John J. Underwood, John Monson Boyes, William Frederick Steer, (Lind) Martine Wille, George William Bouham, Thos. Wilkinson, George Henry Robinson, Hugh C.

Cotton, Chas. Sinclair, Alexander Laws, Chas. Hosmer, Richard Somner Sutton, Alexander MacArthur, William Prescott, John Thos. Croft, Charles Waddington, Wm. Henry Tennant, Frederick Blundell, Charles Wabab, Steuart Corbett, George Frederick Penley, John Samuel Henry Weston, John Wynch, William John Thompson, Humphrey Hay, Malcolm Nicolson, Henry Monke, Henry Bailely Henderson, Thos. Host Jarvis, Kenneth Samuel Sotheby, Henry Lowdell, Edward Huthwaite, Gavin Ralston Crawford, Henry Delafosse, Joseph Robert Woodhouse

DOWNING STREET, July 9.

Forasmuch as the Sovereigns of this realm have been wont, on their Coronation, to confer the Insignia of the Order of the Bath upon driers of their subjects, the Queen has been graciously pleased, upon the occasion of Her Majesty's Coronation, to declare and appoint as Her Majesty doth hereby declare and appoint, that

Admiral Sir William Sidney Smith, K C.B.
Lieut. General Sir John Lambert, K C.R.
Lieut. General the Hon. Sir Robert William O'Callaghan, K C.B.
Archibald Earl of Gosford
Lord George William Russell, Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of Prussia
Charles Augustus Lord Howard de Walden, Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Most Faithful

Thos. Majesty shall be Extra Knights Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and shall hold and enjoy all titles, privileges, immunities, rights, and advantages which the Knights Grand Cross of the said Order may lawfully hold and enjoy. And Her Majesty is further pleased to declare, that the said Extra Knights Grand Cross shall, in all Chapters of the Order, and other solemnities, rank after the regular Knights Grand Cross then existing, and before any regular Knights Grand Cross hereafter to be made, and shall among themselves rank in the Order in which their names are herebefore enumerated, and in the death of any one of the said Extra Knights Grand Cross, the vacancy thereby created shall not be filled up.

Her Majesty has also been pleased to nominate and appoint

Admiral John Lawford

Major Generals—

Andrew Pilkington, C.B.

John Gardiner, C.B.

Sir Arthur Bingham Clifton, C.L.

Lord Greenock, C.B.

Sir Willoughby Cotton, C.B.

Sir John George Woodford, C.B.

Sir Patrick Lindsay, C.B.

Charles James Napier, C.B.

Sir Evelyn Murray MacGregor, Bart. C.B.

Edward Forbes, C.B.

George Thomas Napier, C.B.

Hon. Hercules R. Ponsonby, C.B.

Sir John Thomas Jorgens Bart. C.B.

Sir John Harvey, C.B.

Sir Leonard Green, C.B.

Sir Robert Hobbs, C.B.

Sir Neil Douglas

Sir John Acworth Ommamney, C.B.

Alexander Cameron, C.B.

John Fox Burgoyne, C.B.

to be Knights Commanders of the Most Ho

able Military Order of the Bath

And Her Majesty has further been pleased to nominate and appoint the following Officers to

be Companions of the said Most Honourable Military Order.—

Captains—

Sir Edward Thomas Trenchard, Bart. R.N.

Anthony Featherstone Dalry, R.N.

Edward Pelham Brenton, R.N.

Richard Arthur, R.N.

James Andrew Worth, R.N.

Robert Worran George Festing, R.N.

Birringdon Reynolds, R.N.

Robert Mansell, R.N.

Colonels—

William Wood, h p 41st Foot

William Warro, Unattached

George C. Aguilar, Unattached, Deputy Adjutant General, Ireland

Henry Sullivan, 6th Foot

Stephen A. Goodman, h p 48th Foot

Edward Wynyard, Unattached

George Brown, Rifle Brigade

Charles Edward Conyers, h p. Inspecting Field Officer

James Allan, 57th Foot

David Forbes, h p 78th Foot

Henry Adolphus Prosser, h p 6th Foot

Edward Parkinson, h p 11th Foot

Thomas Francis Wale, Unattached

Richard Egerton, Unattached

William Chalmers, h p. 57th Foot

Chatham Horace Churchill, 31st Foot, Quartermaster General in India

James Grant, h p 23rd Foot

Thomas William Taylor, Lieut. Governor Royal Military College

Felix Calvert, Unattached

John Morillon Wilson, h p. 77th Foot

Thomas Willshire 2nd Foot

Henry Ogilby, 26th Foot

Edward Klenner, Inspecting Field Officer

Ernesting District

Philip Hambridge, Assist. Quartermaster Gen.

Sempious Stetton, h p. 84th Foot

Thomas C. Napier, h p. (has been in Britain)

Nathaniel Thrin, Assist. Quartermaster Gen.

William Henry Sewell, 31st Foot, Deputy Quartermaster-General in India

Joseph Thickwell, 3rd Dragoons

Alexander Macdonald, Royal Artillery

Sir William L. Herries, Unattached

Thomas Staunton St. Clah, Unattached

George William Paty, 94th Foot

Thomas James Wemyss, h p 99th Foot

Robert Burd Gabriel, h p 22nd Dragoons

William Rowan, Unattached

James Shaw Kennedy, Unattached

George Leigh Goldie, 11th Foot

George Cooper, Unattached

Henry Raney, Unattached

Hon. Charles Gore, Deputy Quartermaster-Gen.

in Canada

Griffith George Lewis, Royal Engineers

George Judd Harding, Royal Engineers

Lieutenant-Colonels—

John Gurwood, Unattached

Walter Fred. O'Reilly, h.p., Royal African Corps
 Alexander Kennedy Clark, 7th Drdg. Guards
 Edward T. Mitchell, Royal Artillery
 Thomas Blanchard, Royal Engineers
 Thomas Dymley, Royal Artillery
 William Reid, Royal Engineers
 William Bolden Dundas, Royal Artillery
 John Nevro Wells, Royal Engineers
 William Brereton, Royal Artillery
 John Owen, Royal Marines
 Charles Cornallie Dansey, Royal Artillery

Sir James Lindsay, Knt. Madras Artillery
 William Sandwith, Bombay Infantry
 James F. Salter, Bombay Infantry
 J. G. A. Taylor, Madras Infantry
 Herbert Bowen, Bengal Infantry
 S. T. Johnson, Bengal Cavalry
 Sir R. H. Cunniffe, Bart. Bengal Infantry
 de la Motte, Bombay Cavalry
 Edward Frederick, Bombay Infantry
 James Kennedy, Bengal Cavalry
 Jeremiah Bryant, Knt. Bengal Infantry
 Edmund F. Waters, Bengal Infantry
 William S. Wish, Bengal Artillery
 William Battine, Bengal Artillery
 Archibald Galloway, Bengal Infantry
 Luchmers Russell, Bombay Artillery
 Robert Homo, Madras Infantry

Lieutenant-Colonels—

James H. Frith, Madras Artillery
 Henry Cook, Bengal Infantry
 Charles Herbert, Madras Infantry
 John Morgan, Madras Infantry
 Josiah Stewart, Madras Infantry
 William Williamson, Madras Infantry
 Henry Hall, Bengal Infantry
 John Cheape, Bengal Engineers
 John Low, Madras Infantry
 John Colvin, Bengal Engineers
 Alexander Tulloch, Madras Infantry
 S. W. Steel, Madras Infantry
 Joseph Orchard, Bengal Infantry
 Charles Graham, Bengal Artillery

Majors—

John Herring, Bengal Infantry
 Edward A. Campbell, Bengal Cavalry
 P. Montgomerie, Madras Artillery
 W. J. Butterworth, Madras Infantry
 John Purton, Madras Engineers
 John Cameron, Madras Infantry
 Thomas Lumsden, Bengal Artillery
 Thomas Tindrell, Bengal Artillery

DOWNING-STREET, July 20.

The Queen has been graciously pleased, on the occasion of Her Majesty's Coronation, to declare and appoint, and Her Majesty doth hereby declare and appoint, that

Major-General Sir Alexander Eldwell, of the Bengal Army, K.C.B.

Major-General Sir James Law Lushington, of the Madras Army, K.C.B. and Richard Jenkins, Esq. of the East India Company's Civil Service,

shall be Extra Knights Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and shall hold and enjoy all titles, privileges, immunities, rights, and advantages, which the Knights Grand Cross of the said Order may lawfully hold and enjoy. And Her Majesty is further pleased to declare, that the said Extra Knights Grand Cross shall, in all chapters of the Order, and other solemnities, rank after the regular Knights Grand Cross now existing, and before any regular Knights Grand Cross hereafter to be made, and shall among themselves rank in the order in which their names are hereinbefore enumerated; and that on the death of any one of the said Extra Knights Grand Cross, the vacancy thereby created shall not be filled up.

Her Majesty has also been pleased to nominate and appoint the following Officers in the service of the East India Company, to be Knights Commanders of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath:—

Major-Generals—

John Rose, Bengal Infantry, C.B.
 Thomas Correllis, Bombay Infantry, C.B.
 William Richards, Bengal Infantry, C.B.
 Thomas Whitehead, Bengal Infantry, C.B.
 John Doreton, Madras Cavalry, C.B.
 David Foulis, Madras Cavalry, C.B.
 Sir Thomas Aubrey, Knt. Bengal Engin. C.B.

And Her Majesty has further been pleased to nominate and appoint the following Officers in the service of the East India Company, to be Commanders of the said Most Honourable Military Order:—

Colonels—

William Turner, Bombay Cavalry
 William Hull, Bombay Infantry

DOWNING-STREET, July 3.

The Queen has been graciously pleased, on the occasion of Her Majesty's Coronation, to declare and appoint, that Major General Sir Alexander Dickson, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, shall be an Extra Knight Grand Cross of the said Order, and shall hold and enjoy all titles, privileges, immunities, rights, and advantages which the Knights Grand Cross of the said Order may lawfully hold and enjoy. And Her Majesty is further pleased to declare, that Sir Alexander Dickson shall, in all chapters of the Order, and other solemnities, rank after the regular Knights Grand Cross now existing, and before any regular Knights Grand Cross hereafter to be made, and that in the event of his death, the vacancy thereby created shall not be filled up.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

March 19, at Cawnpore, the Lady of Colonel Thackwell, K.H. 3rd Light Dragoons, of a son.
 April 8, at Chitaurah, the Lady of Captain Smith, 9th Regt., of a daughter.

May 26, at Antigua, the Lady of his Excellency Lieut-Colonel Sir W. M. G. Colebrooke, of a son.

June 23, at Greenwich, the Lady of Major C. A. Boileau, Rifle Brigade, of a daughter.

June 3rd, at Rugby, the Widow of the late Lieut. Colonel J. Marshall, K.H., of a son.

At Clons Castle, the Lady of Captain Cross, 73rd Regt., of a daughter.

At Stonehouse, the Lady of Captain Pacey, R.N., of a son.

At Cadogan place, Miss, the Lady of Capt. Brooke, 32nd Regt., of a daughter.

June 27, at Clifton, the Lady of Lieut. Hart 49th Regt., of a son.

June 30, in Slonoe, the Lady of Major O'Shea, Royal Artillery, of a son.

At Clifton, the Lady of Captain Litchfield, Royal Artillery, of a son.

The Lady of Captain Myers, 71st Regiment, of a daughter.

At Walmer, the Lady of Lieut. Royle, R.N., of a son.

At Workop, the Lady of Lieut. C. Bailey, Royal Engineers, of a daughter.

At Naas, the Lady of Lieut. J. D. Stokes, 5th Regiment, of a daughter.

At Enfield, the Lady of Capt. M. J. Gambier, 53rd Regiment, of a son.

At Cove, the Lady of Lieut. H. Fitzgerald, R.N., of a daughter.

At Cheltenham, the Lady of Captain A. Moleworth, Royal Artillery, of a daughter.

At Stockport, the Lady of Major J. Creagh, 86th Regiment, of a son.

At Haywater, the Lady of the Hon. W. E. Fitzmaurice, 2nd Life Guards, of a son.

July 15, in London, the Lady of Capt. Maxwell, R.N., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

June 21, at Portsmouth, Colonel Jones, Commandant of Portsmouth Division of Royal Marines, to Miss Arnauld, second daughter of the late E. B. Arnauld, Esq. of Portsmouth.

June 21, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Capt. G. D. Paterson, 98th Regiment, to Augusta, youngest daughter of Sir W. P. Call, Bt.

June 23, at St. Mary's Church, Marylebone, Sir D. de Leger Hill, K.C.B., K.T.S., &c., Governor of St. Lucia, to Mary, widow of the late M. Davis, Esq. of Turnwood Hall of Holnest.

At St. George's, Hanover-square, Major Johnstone, 42nd Highlanders, to Frances, daughter of the late Sir F. Hopkins, Bart., of Rochfort, Meath.

June 27, Capt. A. Graff, 61st Regiment, to Harriet Sophia, fifth daughter of Capt. T. Deacon, 17th Lt.

At Killenova Church, Lieut. and Adj. Franklin, 19th Regiment, to Margaret, daughter of Thos. Beunett, of East Wool, Tipperary, Esq.

At Maidstone, Lieut. J. Pegus, R.M., to Ellen, daughter of S. Hood, Esq., late of Llanilly, Carmarthen.

June 30, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Captain Sir Henry William Cory Astley, R.N., to Ellen, eldest daughter of the late James Toby, Esq., of Parliament street and of Richmond.

At Woolwich, Assist.-Surg. G. T. Ferris, R.A., to Eliza, daughter of the late Lieut. General Evans, R.A.

At Cork, Capt. Adams, 10th Lt., to Emma Henrietta, only daughter of the late D. Love, Esq., of Cork.

At Whitburn, Capt. R. E. Fufferton, 30th Regiment, to Ellen, daughter of R. Bowly, Esq., of Clendon Meadows, Durham.

At Barking, Essex, Assist.-Surg. J. W. Grant, 2nd Life Guards, to Mary, daughter of the late Rev. W. Roberts.

July 11, at Kingston, Lieut. J. W. Morgan, R.N., to Caroline Horne, eldest daughter of Rear-Admiral Brown, of Elm Grove, Southsea.

At Leamington, Capt. Henry Fowler Mackay, Irish Green Dragoons, to Caroline Matilda, youngest daughter of Lieut.-General Alnwick.

On the 24th instant, by her father, at Clifton Campville, Staffordshire, Mary Emily, second daughter of the Rev. Robert Taylor, M.A., Rector of Clifton Campville, to Frederick Constant Barrow, Captain 20th Regiment, only surviving son of the late Lieut.-Gen. John James Barlow.

DEATHS.

We have to record the unexpected and regretful death of Lieut.-General Henry Dumasq, an old and much-valued associate—one of the survivors of Waterloo, who, from his years, might have expected to see many additional anniversaries of that great victory; but the severe wound he received on that memorable occasion, though temporarily subdued, eventu-

ally conquered by inducing paralysis, which finally carried him off at the age of 46, on the 5th of March last, at the establishment of the Australian Agricultural Company in New South Wales, in the management of whose large concerns as Chief Commissioner he succeeded a most distinguished member of the sister profession, Captain Sir Edward Parg, R.N., and repeatedly received the thanks of the Directors, for his able and zealous conduct in the superintendence of the affairs of the Company.

Lieutenant-Colonel Dumasq entered the army at the early age of 16, and, as detailed in an official record of his services at the Horse Guards:—

"He served in eight campaigns, of which six were in the Peninsula, and one in Canada, and the last, that of Waterloo."

"He was present in the thirteen battles for which medals were bestowed, besides many affairs of outposts, of advance and rear-guards; also at the sieges of Badajoz and Burgos; and at the assault of the forts of Salamanca; on the two former occasions he served as a volunteer with the Engineers, and on the latter (again a volunteer) being the foremost person in the assault of that redoubt, he received from the officer in command of the Vittoria the terms of his capitulation, which document he delivered to the Duke of Wellington."

"He attained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel after nine years' service, and was gazetted to that grade in June, 1817, for services in the field. He was employed on the Staff upwards of eighteen years, and out of twenty-six years' service he was employed upwards of twenty-two years abroad. He was twice dangerously wounded."

At the battle of Waterloo he was on the staff of Lieut.-General Sir John Byng, now Lord Strafford, and was shot through the lungs at Hongourmont; but, being at the time charged with a message for the Duke of Wellington, he, in spite of such a wound, reached the Duke, and delivered his message before he fell—being the officer of whom the anecdote is told by Sir Walter Scott in "Paul's Letters to his Kinfolk," as follows:—"Amid the havoc which had been made among his immediate attendants, his Grace sent off an officer (Captain Dumasq) to a General of Brigade, in another part of the field, with a message of importance; in returning he was shot through the lungs, but, as if supported by the resolution to do his duty, he rose up to the Duke of Wellington, delivered the message to his Grace, and then dropped from his horse, and all appearance of a dying man."

He is also mentioned in "Booth's Reminiscences of the Field of Waterloo." The ball was never extracted, and is considered to have been the eventual cause of his premature death, by an unfavourable change of position in the neighbourhood of some vital part.

It is, perhaps, not saying too much to assert, that, of the many officers of superior merit whom the late war, so fertile in heroes, brought forth, no officer of his rank was of more distinguished merit than the subject of this memoir; in proof of which it is probably only necessary to refer to the facts here enumerated, and to the rapid promotion with which his services were rewarded. It may, however, be proper to advert further to the last testimonial received from the Horse Guards by Lieutenant-Colonel Dumasq, when about to retire from the army in the year 1834, in the following words, viz:—

"Nobody is more sensible than Lord Hill is of the value of your services, and of the zeal and gallantry which you applied to the discharge of your duty, whenever an opportunity was offered of displaying those qualities."

In private life his talents, his valuable merits

and acquirements, and his many highly endearing qualities, won for him the regard and esteem of a very numerous circle of attached friends, and secured the affections of his immediate relations. He was married in the year 1833 to Elizabeth Sophia, daughter of the late Hon. Augustus Richard Butler Dangers, son of Brynley second Earl of Lanesborough, and has left his widow and seven young children to lament his irreparable loss.

It is to be hoped that some of his sons may hereafter adorn the profession, of which their father was so distinguished an ornament.

April 25, at Benares, Major General Clements Brown, C.B., Bengal Artillery.

At Bengal, Major Andrews, R.H., 3rd Light Dragoons.

At Meerut, Bengal, Capt. Carmac, 3rd Regt. at Bombay, Lieut. Nash, 6th Regt.

At Octacmund, Nilgherry Hills, Madras, Lieut. J. Harvey, 54th Regiment.

At the Cape of Good Hope, on passage from Ceylon, Major Ricketts, 58th Regiment.

At the Havannah, Lieut. Wiun, 1st West India Regiment.

Drowned off St. Domingo, Lieut. Fraser, 56th Regiment.

Drowned at Bermuda, Lieut. Boston, 30th Regiment.

At Barbadoes, Lieut. Carew, 1st West India Regiment.

In New Brunswick, General John Coffin, aged 87 years.

At Montreal, Major Warde, Royal Regiment.

May 29, off Prince's Island, Coast of Africa,

Lieut. William Dickey, R.N., com. H.M. brigantine Waterwitch.

On board the Hastings packet, on passage from Jamaica, Lieut. George Fortescue, R.N.

At Edinburgh, Lieut. Colonel Lomine, Deputy-Governor of South Sea Castle.

Lieut. Colonel Gregory, h.p. 1st Gar. Batt.

At Brompton, Lieut. Colonel A. H. Campbell, h.p. 21st Regiment.

Major de Stigner, h.p. 10th Regiment.

In London, Capt. Chalcwick, 33rd Regiment.

Capt. Gilborn, h.p. H.M.

At Forfar, Capt. Nash, h.p. 45th R. Regiment.

At Edinburgh, Lieut. Carmac, late 6th R.V.B.

Eusaigu and Adjutant Green, h.p. 14th Regt.

At Shallony, Co. Fermanagh, Quartermaster Cowan, h.p. 12th Regiment.

At Bristol, Quartermaster T. J. J. h.p. 20th Dragoons.

At Nottingham, Quartermaster Rogers, h.p. Murray's Corps.

June 10, Capt. A. Abdy, R.N.

Capt. G. Robinson, R.N.

June 27, at Liverpool, Capt. John Peck, late 9th Regiment.

June 28th, at his residence, Counaught-terrace, Major General Sir G. M. Cox, Bart. Hon.

East India Company's Service, in his 61st year.

July 4, at Rochester, Mark Markin, Esq.,

Parser R.N. and of H.M.'s gunsmithry Peninsular.

In Dublin, Major Conolly, late 34th Regt.

July 15, at Exeter, retired Rear-Admiral J. Winne, aged 69.

July 20, at East Lodge, Enfield, Admiral Sir Pulteney Malcolm, C.B. &c.

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

KEPT AT THE OBSERVATORY OF CAPT. W. H. SMYTH, AT BEDFORD.

JUNE, 1838.	Six's Thermometer.		At 5 P. M.			Pluvio- meter Inches.	Evapora- tion Inches.	Winds at 8 P. M.
	Maxim. Degrees.	Minim. Degrees.	Barom. Inches.	Thermo. Degrees.	Hygrom. Fairs.			
1	62.2	55.6	29.83	61.2	530	.531	.295	W. light airs
2	61.3	55.4	29.82	60.6	528	.528	.295	S. E. S.W. breezes, fine
3	61.9	55.3	29.81	61.8	527	.117	.115	S. S.W. light breezes
4	63.7	56.6	29.83	62.8	490	.245	.100	S. W. calm and fine
5	65.5	56.0	29.95	65.0	441	—	.100	S. W. calm, magnificent
6	63.8	56.8	30.13	59.8	483	.228	.100	N. N. E. fine day
7	64.7	56.4	30.22	62.3	462	—	.100	N. W. fresh breeze
8	64.9	57.0	30.20	66.0	456	—	.005	W. beautiful day
9	59.5	46.8	30.09	69.1	453	—	.000	S. W. nearly calm
10	59.6	53.9	29.75	59.4	450	—	.000	S. light airs, fine
11	60.9	55.8	29.63	59.8	493	.105	.090	E. S. E. calm, cloudy
12	62.4	55.5	29.68	61.4	510	.490	.100	E. S. E. calm, rain
13	61.8	56.0	29.72	60.8	520	.025	.110	N. N. E. light airs, cloudy
14	60.8	53.5	29.78	60.6	500	—	.100	S. W. light breezes
15	60.8	55.5	29.77	60.1	519	—	.108	S. light airs, cloudy
16	63.3	57.0	29.85	62.9	537	.313	.105	S. nearly calm
17	67.8	60.6	29.88	67.5	541	—	.100	S. S. W. beautiful day
18	68.9	63.0	29.67	63.8	515	—	.190	S. S. W. fresh breeze
19	65.6	60.0	29.88	61.6	497	—	.120	W. S. W. fresh breeze, fine
20	61.8	59.0	29.68	61.2	523	.205	.106	S. strong wind, drizzly
21	61.7	59.3	29.68	63.8	490	.226	.120	S. W. strong gales
22	60.5	57.0	29.89	62.1	490	.210	.150	S. W. violent gales
23	66.6	56.3	30.16	66.0	500	—	.140	S. light airs and fine
24	70.9	57.2	30.05	70.0	525	—	.140	S. W. calm, fine
25	79.4	64.0	30.05	72.0	503	—	.120	S. W. calm, cloudy
26	71.5	62.8	30.04	64.5	500	.448	.000	S. W. calm, much rain
27	64.8	61.0	30.03	64.2	509	.042	.130	S. W. light airs, variable
28	79.7	60.8	30.03	79.1	476	.019	.110	W. N. W. calm, beautiful
29	68.4	57.6	30.00	67.0	460	.040	.105	S. W. passing storms
30	66.6	57.0	29.94	65.0	455	—	.100	E. S. E. fr. breeze, cloudy

